have the final say in any

disputes between employers and their workforce over rec-

As Michael Heseltine ac-

trade unionists, Labour strate-

gists had rapidly to flesh out

The Tories had capitalised

on their rivals' disarray by

testing for 14-year-old pupils.

trade unions where this was

backed by 50 per cent of the

workforce. Mr Heseltine said

the measures would inflict

"incalculable damage" on the

the way for "licensed industri-

al blackmail, marking a

return to the shopfloor strife of

"It could destroy in one

session of Parliament our

ability to attract massive in-

vestment from all over the

world." he said. "Eighteen

years of painstaking pursuit of

excellence surrendered in 18 months of Labour power."

Gordon Brown, forced on to the defence, disclosed plans

for a third party to arbitrate

where employers and workers

could not decide how union

recognition would work. Party

the Seventies.

Instead, the Deputy Prime

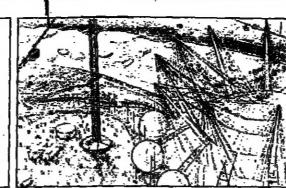
details throughout the day.

ognising unions.



ANGUS DEAYTON

This is what attractive women put up with all the time 🤊 PAGE 17



First look at the Millennium plans for Greenwich, PAGE 9

12 ACADEMY AWARU NUMERALICES



Arbitration in recognition disputes

Labour wants union role for judges

LABOUR was forced to disclose more details of its plans Rifkind attack for trade union recognition yesterday, announcing for the on federalism first time that judges would

The Government gave notice that it planned to block a new treaty on the future of Europe other members pressed ahead with plans to create a defence arm within the EU.

cused the party of putting power back into the hands of Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, accused his European partners of trying its employment policy, adding to "lurch in a federalist direction" every two or three

changing the topic of their early morning press confersources later confirmed that ence, billed as an announcedifferent units of the workforce could be balloted ment of plans for extending separately. And they conceded that in some cases an Minister launched an all-out employer would want differattack on Labour proposals to ent plants to take part in a require firms to recognise

single, all-embracing ballot. In what was widely seen as an attempt to defuse the row, the party signalled that measures to change laws on trade union recognition would not not appear in the first Queen's Speech. A Green Paper is expected in the first year of a Labour government but there

is no timetable on legislation. Yesterday morning the Shadow Chancellor emphasised that workers had a right both to join and not to join a trade union. Labour's latest policy was a milder version of a system, backed by Ronald Reagan, that had operated in America without problems for

several years, he said. "A recognised unit would be something that would have to be agreed ... usually by

employers and employees themselves," he added. If they could not agree, then a third party would have to decide. Mr Brown then suggested "a judge" would be the final ar-biter in any dispute over what constituted the relevant workforce".

Later Robin Cook, chair man of Labour's policy forum. suggested on Radio 4's The World at One that the final arbiter should be the Central Arbitration Committee, which decides on industrial disputes.

Two hours later party sources said disagreements would go initially to the Advisory Arbitration and Conciliation Service (Acas), then to the Central Arbitration Committee, which would in future be headed by a judge.

For several years Labour has suggested it would allow trade unions to be recognised at work if wanted by 50 per cent of the workforce. But it was only yesterday that the party was forced to clarify what would happen if there employer and the employees.

Apart from pledging to reintroduce trade union recognition at GCHQ, Labour has made few concessions to the unions, claiming it will not repeal the raft of trade union laws introduced by Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s.

One further change is to grant employees the right to appeal to an industrial tribunal if dismissed after taking part in lawful industrial

> Peter Riddell, page 10 Leading article, page 19



Proud parents Edward and Gloria Minghella, centre, celebrate their son's Oscar success with staff at their Isle of Wight ice-cream factory

Isle of Wight hails cream of the Oscars

By BILL FROST

CONES generously laced with vintage champagne were handed out to wellwishers at an ice-cream factory outside Ryde on the Isle of Wight yesterday as Edward and Gloria Minghella celebrated the Oscar success of their son for The English Patient was Britain's best performance yet

at the Los Angeles awards. Close friends, neighbours and refuse collectors began arriving in ever larger numbers soon after the factory opened. The switchboard had given up under the pressure of calls from across the world and the fax machine was

running out of paper.
Had Mr Minghella's parents had their way, he might never have enjoyed the limelight in Hollywood, Before he went to university to study English and drama, they had

suggested he follow them into the ice-cream business.

Yesterday, his father acknowledged an error of judgment as he basked in his son's triumph. "Yes, we weren't keen at first, his mother was horrified, but how could we have anticipated what would



Minghella holds aloft

happen," he said. The director's mother, a deputy lieutenant of the Isle of Wight, was busy planning a celebration. "It's not every day your son wins nine Oscars and I doubt it will ever happen again.

"He called twice from Hollywood right after the ceremony, he's not sure when he will can be sure we will lay on one of the best parties ever for his return. In the meantime, we will toast him again tonight in

English Patient. Their son flew them to Rome and then Tuscany along with his Aunt Bessie to play in a crowd scene as peasants celebrating VE Day. "We are dressed in costume and my sister and 1 play the accordion," said Mrs Minghella proudly. "Edward, my husband, plays tambourine, but not very well. "There

was no fee - we did it for love. Anthony wanted us to feature in the film, he is very attached to his family and we are all very close. He knew my sister Bessie and I had played the accordion together as girls

hella both feature in The

and wanted us to do it in the Edward and Gloria Ming-



film. He just kept on at me Ten miles from Ryde at

Shanklyn, Anthony Minghella's English teacher was also celebrating his former pupil's success. Gareth Pritchard, 64, remembers "a generous boy" with an outgoing lievably well he has done makes me, and everybody else who knows and worked with him, very proud. The good thing is he has kept his feet on the ground and has remained the personable, likeable chap he was when I first met him."

Mr Minghella himself be-lieves his formative years in such a small and insulated community helped to shape his work. There are two references to the Isle of Wight in his film. "I wanted to give some-Continued on page 3, col 1

Party politics, page 17

Constituency moves to oust MP in sleaze row

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TORY party members have begun moves to force Tim Smith, the MP who accepted £25,000 in cash from Mohamed Al-Fayed, to stand down before the election. And, in a letter to The Times oday, Richard Branson, the



millionaire businessman. called on Mr Smith and Neil Hamilton, the MP for Tatton, who are at the centre of the cash-for-questions controver-

of Virgin, urged Beaconsfield and Tatton Conservatives to take matters into their own hands and deselect the MPs. Mr Smith has admitted taking cash but Mr Hamilton, who accepted two holidays in the Paris Ritz and failed to declare income tax on payments from lan Greer, the lobbyist, has denied receiving money from Mr Al Fayed. Constituency officers in Bea-

sy, to go now. Mr Branson, the chairman

constield are consulting members to see if a new candidate should be chosen.

Caroline Strafford, who until last week was the political chairman and vice-chairman of the Beaconsfield association, said last night: "I am not prepared to support Tim Smith. He admits taking cash in brown envelopes but is not sure how much. He says he included it in his tax return. and so ought to be able to stay. Tim Smith should take the honourable course and stand down. He is affecting the Continued on page 2, col 3

Letters, page 19

Girl who killed at 12 is detained

Britain's youngest female murderer was ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure after being found guilty of killing a woman when she was just 12

Sharon Carr, now aged 17. stabbed 18-year-old hairdresser Katie RackJiff to death. The judge told Carr: "You are a very dangerous young

Marconi deal

The Marconi Collection of historic items from the earliest days of radio is to be given to the Science Museum after a Uturn by the electronics firm GEC-Marconi. which had planned to auction it....Page 6

The Times on the Internet

Judge defends jailing of jurors

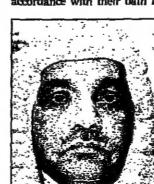
BY RICHARD FORD AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A JUDGE last night defended his decision to jail two jurors, Bonnie Schot and Carol Barclay, for 30 days for contempt of court after they refused to take part in the jury's

Judge Anura Cooray's ac-

tion is believed to be the first such in more than 300 years, but he insisted that the women had wilfully refused to bring in a verdict at the end of a 17-day trial. He was replying to critics after Miss Schot, 20, the jury foreman, and Miss Barclay, 32, were released from Holloway pending an appeal.
"I was satisfied that their

refusal to participate in the jury's deliberations constituted a clear contempt of court, and as such a sentence of http://www.the-times.co.uk | imprisonment was the most



Judge Cooray: says he had no option but jail

appropriate course for me to take, he said. "Jurors must recognise they have a responsibility to fulfil their duties in accordance with their oath if

the criminal justice system is to be upheld. The two women were impanelled with ten other people last month to try five

defendants in a £100,000 counterfeit currency case. They had heard evidence for 17 days at Knightsbridge Crown Court but, on March 12, after two hours of deliberation, it emerged that they had refused take part in discussions in the jury room because of their personal beliefs.

Miss Schot sent a note to the judge saying: "Your Honour, we are unable to come to any decisions owing to some jurors conscious [sic] beliefs. Please advise."

In his statement last night Judge Cooray said: "When the court asked for particulars and darification, a further note was received which read: Your Honour, some members of the jury cannot bring themselves to make a true judgment due to our beliefs, not

religious but personal.
'At the beginning of the trial, before we took the oath, we felt that we could not stand up in the court and stress this fact. We thought that our feelings may change over time. After retiring we found that we still feel the same and cannot give a true verdict to these defendants'."

The judge's statement added: "It later emerged that one of the two names given was that of the jury foreman, Continued on page 2, col 7

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OSCARS' BEST FILM BEST DIRECTOR - ANTHONY MINGHELLA

JULIETTE BINOCHE

WILLEM DAFOE

THE EIIGLISH PATIETITE



Rifkind threatens to block new Europe treaty

By Charles Bremner, Michael Evans and Philip Webster

THE Government gave notice yesterday that it planned to block a new treaty on the future of Europe if other members pressed ahead with plans to create a defence arm within the European Union and to subject immigration to majority voting.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, thrust Europe to the centre of the election campaign in Rome as he accused his European partners of trying to "lurch in a federalist direction" every two or three years. In London, a Franco-German proposal to incorporate the Western European Union defence organisation into the EU within 10 years was condemned as a "betrayal" of agreements that had been carefully crafted over the past year.

Mr Rifkind rejected the fresh

proposals put forward by the Dutch presidency for the new treaty to be signed in June in Amsterdam. He said it would mean that immigration and asylum policy could no longer be determined by democrati-

cally elected parliaments, and the EU would for the first time be turned into an organisation of "collective security." He said the proposals had been tabled as a basis for negotiation, but they were not a basis for agreement.

His tough stance, seen as another move to underline his own and the Government's increasingly Euro-sceptic stance, came as Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, claimed that a Labour government would restore Britain's influence in Europe while the Tories would lead the country "towards the exit door". However, on the two issues earmarked as sticking points by Mr Rifkind, Labour's stance is equally unbending.

mance was dismissed by some of his European colleagues as blatant electioneering; they felt it marred the champagne celebrations for the EU's fortieth anniversary. In

BRITAIN OUTPERFORMS GERMANY

Britain has jumped ahead of Germany, and one place behind Japan, in a world league table of economic performance published today. Top placings go to the United States. Singapore and Hong Kong. Britain has moved from 19th to 12th place in the study published by the Swiss-based consultants IMD. Factors in the improvement

of the reunification of the country, high business costs, slow company restructuring, and employment rigidities. furiosuly. They said Britain had made significant progress in persuading her European partners that the Western European Union - the Brussels-based body representing

history, the EU was trying to become an institution of collective security by bringing the Western European Union fully into the EU That would amount to an EU Europe's defence interests — should commitment to go to war if a be inextricably linked to Nato. One member state was attacked or senior British official said angrily: invaded. He warned that such a "The French and Germans have plan would cause complications for now thrown everything back into four member states who remain the pot, including the kitchen sink." neutral - Sweden, Ireland, Austria Mr Rifkind said that the plan and Finland - as well as souring relations with Russia and adding

were said to be strong growth.

falling unemployment interna-

tionalisation, the financial sec-

tor and governmental

performance. Germany was said

to have suffered as a conse-

quence of the economic impact

enlargement.

Britain is far from alone in its opposition to the scheme. Although hacked my a core group of five other El countries, it is opposed by the four neutral states, which are not members of the WEU

Diplomats said it was highly unlikely that the Franco-German defence plan would see its way into the revamped Maastricht treaty because Britain had strong support for its resistance from the neutral Continental states. The plan. described by Mr Rifkind as foolish and dangerous, was formally discussed at the treaty negociation in Rome yesterday after Hans van Mierlo, the Dutch Foreign Minister. suggested it be broached when the inter-governmental conference re-

turns to defence next month. The text, which won general support from the 14 other EU governments, provides for removing frontiers and applying majority voting to immigration and frontier questions within five years. It also

certain areas of foreign policy. The draft, part of a complete treaty which must be agreed in Amster-dam in June, also calls for the EU gradually to take on responsibility for European defence through the Western European Union.

Mr Cook, meanwhile, sought to contrast Labour's approach of cooperation with Europe with the Conservatives' confrontation. Outlining Labour's six-point business plan for Europe. Mr Cook said: "We cannot get the best business deal out of Europe under a government that constantly wants no deal at all with

Tory divisions on Europe are likely to be highlighted today when John Redwood stages a London photocall to publicise his new book rguing against the single currency. Ministers had hoped that it would be a low-profile event and have tried without success to encourage Mr Redwood to "pull" the book.

Peter Riddell, page 10

MPs call for **Freemasons** to come out

By Frances GIBB and Stewart Tendler

JUDGES, magistrates, police officers and Crown prosecutors should be required to declare publicly their mem-bership of the Freemasons or any other secret society, the Home Affairs Committee of MPs said yesterday.

The committee's recommendation - which split members follows its inquiry into
 Freemasonry in the judiciary and the police. Labour said it would introduce such a register if it won the election. John Major also supports the idea, despite some Tory opposition.

The MPs said in their report yesterday that there was a great deal of unjustified paranoia about Freemasonry". There would be practical difficulties in establishing a regis-ter, but these would not be insuperable. "Nothing so much undermines public confidence in public institutions as the knowledge that some public servants are members of a secret society, one of whose aims is mutual self-

The committee urged Freemasons to set up a voluntary register rather than await legislation. "By openness and disclosure, all suspicion would be removed. We would welcome the taking of such steps by the United Grand Lodge."

The decision to recommend a compulsory public register divided the committee, with three Conservative members opposing the move. It was endorsed by five Labour MPs and one Tory MP. The proposal will be opposed by the 8,500 Masonic lodges in England and Wales, and by the Police Federation, which represents 120,000 officers.

The United Grand Lodge of England attacked the proposal. The Grand Secretary Commander, Michael Higham, said: "As a lawful and lawabiding society, Freemasons will be disappointed by this hasty conclusion...a recommendation which, if implemented, would interfere with a fundamental right in British life. There is no basis for saying that one of Freemasonry's aims is mutual self-advancement. Freemasonry is not to be used to advance interest, and that is very clearly understood by every

The report says that, according to information it received from the United Grand Lodge, none of the Law Lords, two of 39 Appeal Court judges and one of 96 High Court judges were Freemasons. One of 75 judges on the Midland and Oxford circuit, and 16 out of 64 circuit were Masons. The committee was given a list of members of the now-disbanded West Midlands Serious Crime Squad who served between 1974 and 1989. The United Grand Lodge said 14 of the 96 individuals named

Judge faces criticism for jailing two jurors



Bonnie Schot, centre, leaving Holloway prison last night with her mother, Audrey, and sister, Donna

17th-century ruling established that refusal to deliver a verdict is common law offence

A 17TH-CENTURY ruling by the Lord Chief Justice of the day established that it juries and inflicted fines and imprison- Il jurors and IO of them agree, or where was a contempt under common law for a juror or jury to refuse to deliver a verdict unless to state that they cannot agree. In a case called Bushell in 1670, jurors

were committed to prison for returning a verdict "against the plain and manifest weight of evidence, and against the direction of the court on a point of law. But Lord Chief Justice Vaughan held that a jury could not be punished in a criminal case for such a finding, firmly establishing that jurors are immune over the verdicts they bring and cannot be sued if a conviction is later overturned. Jury service is a duty that citizens have

to undertake, barring those who are excused, ineligible or exempt. Refusal is an offence under the Juries Act 1974 and can carry a fine of up to £1,000.

Juries do not have to justify or give reasons for their decisions. Until the 17th century, they were often punished for verdicts proved wrong on appeal or contrary to the direction of the judge. The Court of Star Chamber often summoned ment on them. In 1554, eight members of a jury were heavily fined and jailed for having acquitted Sir Nicholas Throg-

morton of high treason.

But by 1607 the immunity of jurors to actions brought by people injured by a wrongful verdict was established in a case called Floyd v Barker, where it was held that a writ for conspiracy could not be issued against a juror from someone indicted but later acquitted.

But jurors who reach their verdicts capriciously — by determining their verdicts by lot or by tossing a coin commit an offence. A judge faced with a potentially biased jury — for instance, on racial grounds — has three options: to give further directions to the jury; to discharge up to three jurors from the 12 and to allow the trial to continue with the remainder, or to discharge the entire jury and order a retrial before a fresh panel.

Majority verdicts were introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 1967 and are acceptable where there are no fewer than

there are 10 jurors and nine agree.

Where a jury has reached a guilty verdict on the basis of a majority decision, the Juries Act 1974 requires the foreman of the jury to state in open court the number who agreed and disagreed. ☐ Judge Cooray, who was appointed Britain's second only black circuit judge in 1991, was in the news once before when be was criticised for constantly interrupting during a criminal trial.

The then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, in an appeal in 1993 by a man imprisoned for seven years for a drug offence, said that Judge Cooray had continually interrupted counsel and the defendant. There had been more than 90 separate interventions, he said. "Judges should remember that most people go into the witness box ... in a state of nervousness." Defendants expected to receive a courteous hearing.

Continued from page 1 Bonnie Schot. The matter was carefully discussed with counsel when various implications were canvassed. And finally the court decided to discharge the whole jury and order a

On Monday Judge Cooray gave the two women the opportunity to explain their conduct but, after hearing them, he had no option but to

jail them, he said.

As she left jail last night. Miss Schot described the Sri Lankan-born judge as "a very spiteful and vindictive man". Miss Schot, who has three Alevels and hade planned to be a barrister, added that she was no longer sure that she wished to pursue a career at the Bar. Before her release she said

she had felt bewildered by the facts of the lengthy case and had felt unable to make a decision. "I am shattered. It is outrageous that I have been locked up when I have never been in any trouble. I was just trying to do what was right.". When she came out of Holloway, Miss Schot, her mother, Audrey, and her sister Donna, 33, were driven away by reporters from a tabloid newspaper. A few moments later a black BMW believed to

contain Carol Barclay left. Lola Barciay, mother of Carol Barciay, an unemployed nursery nurse, said she was delighted her daughter had been released. "We cannot believe this has happened. It has been a nightmare," she said from Shepherd's Bush, west London.

Penal reform groups last night attacked the decision to jail the two women. "This was an indefensible and draconian use of imprisonment. This unreasonably harsh action can only discourage people form serving on juries," Paul Cavadino, chairman of the Penal Affairs Consortium,

Leroy Redhead, the barrister representing the two women, said It is a very unfortunate situation and something which perhaps could have been handled slightly better."

Leading article, page 19

Albanians take asylum claim to High Court

Seven asylum-seckers have brought a test case in the High Court claiming that thousands of Albanians vito live under Serb rule in former Yagoslavia and fear ethnic cleansing have a right to political asymm in Britain. The case follows an Immigration Appeal Tribunal deci-Beigrade did have "a system or policy" for targeting Albanians.

hanians.
Lawyers said the imment tion authorities had add a "ludicrous" policy where each case had to be heard individually, costing the has payer millions in unnecessary legal aid. Mr Justice Hidden reserved judgment.

Arms challenge

Mr Justice Laws, sitting at the High Court, refused per-mission for campaign groups to seek a judicial review of the Government decision to allow arms sales to Indonsia. He said the compla could only be "properly west-lated in the political field".

Leaders on TV

Leaders of the three main political parties have agreed to be questioned by a studio audience of 500 on ITV April 28. They will not face each other in a head to bead confrontation. Negotiations for a full televison debate

Girl's reprieve

Whitney Forrester, 7, who was due to be removed from her family and sent to anorphanage in Jamaica, was granted an eleventh-hour reprieve. He removal was post-poned until April 4 after Jamaican authorities re-quested further information.

Loyalist death

A former Presbyterian minis-ter, the Rev David Temple-ton, has died six weeks after loyalist terrorists burst into his house in Belfast and beat him with nail-standded cud-gels as a "punishment" for allegedly importing poruo-graphic videos.

Bail for father

Sion Jenkins, 39, the foster father of Billie-Jo Jenkins, 13. is to be released on bail after spending II days in Lewes prison charged with her murder. He is expected to be released today after a hearing at Lewes Crown Court vesterday.

Conwoman jailed

Eida Beguinua. 52, who tried to pull off a £16 trillion bank fraud was jailed for two years yesterday at Southwark Crown court. After the case, police revealed that she was already a millionairess as a result of previous scams for which she was not charged.

Stretcher honour

A woman who is bedridden with with the bone disorder osteoscierosis attended a Buckingham Palace investiture on a stretcher. Sue Burns, 51, was appointed MBE in the New Year Honours for her work on behalf of fellow sufferers.

Tax return

A man who paid his council tax on time has won a new car from his local authority. Lambeth council, in south London, also offered cash prizes to encourage people to pay promptly. Anyone who paid in advance was eligible to enter the draw.

CORRECTION

The Archbishop of Canterbury asks us to make clear that he did not say that cohabiting couples were "living in shame" as a headline on a report yesterday implied. His point was to remind people that there are moral values worth espousing.



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MPs 'must go'

Continued from page 1 credibility of the Prime Minister and the party."

The rare intervention in the political debate by Mr Branson, who has no plans to endorse any party in the run-up to polling day, will dismay the Tory high command.

The letter came two weeks after Mr Branson met leading Greek politicians in Athens and argued that British politicians could be trusted not to take bribes, which had not always seemed so in the rest of Europe. He wrote: "When I returned

home — to my embarrassment - it seemed that some British politicians may have behaved not a lot better.

Even at this late stage

surely the constituencies in question should change their candidates for the next election - there are many young keen and forthright people who would like to ... serve their country."

Mr Branson said: "Until the extraordinary revelations of the last few days I have always been proud of the fact that Britain is a very special country where favours could not be

bought.
"Both these individuals should step down now. There should be no question of their constituency parties trying to support them. This episode has been one of the most demoralising factors in terms of the way the public regard

Race chiefs maintain legal threat against Armed Forces

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Ministry of Defence was given an official warning yes-terday that it had failed to do enough to improve racial equality, and would face legal action unless significant progress was made in a year. The warning from the Com-

mission for Racial Equality followed a year of monitoring attempts to eliminate discrimination in the Armed Services. After a meeting yesterday, the commission said that it would suspend for another year a decision on whether to serve a non-discrimination notice on the MoD, which would place the ministry under a legally enforceable obligation to carry out specific measures under the Race Relations Act. However, the commission

said that it was dissatisfied with the degree of progress primarily in those areas which give a measure of the levels of commitment and willingness to change attitudes and practice".

When the CRE had agreed to suspend serving a nondiscrimination notice months ago, it drew up a fiveyear action plan. Christopher Boothman, the CRE legal

director, said there had been "no discernible sense of urgency" to face up to the problems. The commissioners could not ignore "highly disturbing" evidence of the "pervasive, longrunning and deeply entrenched problem of racism" in a report by the Office for Public Management.

□ Angela Sirdar, 31. a former Army chef denied a transfer to the Royal Marines during defence cuts, lost a claim at an industrial tribunal in Norwich. The Marines said recruits had to be capable of being front-line commandos.



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The night that Hollywood lost the plot

Awards leave big names out of the picture

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES AND DALYA ALBERGE

EVERYONE in Hollywood was scripting their own plot for the Oscar results yesterday. Some said they were a victory for little-known stars over big names. Or a victory for independent ideas over the big studios. Or a victory for the British over everyone else.

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Anthony Minghella, from Ryde, who won best director for The English Patient, had even announced from the stage: "This is a great day for the Isle Of Wight,"

It was, above all, a night of triumph for The English Patient. The "intimate epic" of passion and betrayal in the war-torn Mediterranean all but swept the board, spearheading an outsiders' invasion of Hollywood by winning nine awards - including Best Picture - from 12 nominations. It also won a brace of Oscars for technical achievement and Best Supporting Actress for Juliente Binoche, who said that she thought Lauren Bacall

deserved it more. Ralph Fiennes, The English Patient star who interrupted a West End theatre run to fly in for the big night, was beaten to the Oscar for Best Actor -



Saul Zaentz, producer of The English Patient

along with Tom Cruise - by Australia's Geoffrey Rush, who played the troubled pianist David Helfgott in Shine. In his acceptance speech, Rush hit at i music Helfgott's current US concert tour a "circus". A circus, Rush taking and inspiration. Helfgott then ran on to tumultuous applause to play The Flight of

The Bumble Bee. Kristin Scott Thomas wore a fixed smile after missing the Best Actress award, which went to Frances McDormand, the memorable pregnant policewoman in Fargo, an American film with British backing.

Just being nominated was "a fantastic way to punctuate the whole story" of The English Patient's success, said

Scott Thomas on her way into a lavish post-Oscar party at the Mondrian hotel, for which she wore a strikingly low-cut black taffeta gown by Christian Lacroix. She admitted:

"Of course, I'm disappointed." Tim Bevan of Working Title. the British company behind Fargo, expressed delight at a second husband-and-wife success. Last year the company had a winner with Dead Man Walking, when Tim Robbins directed wife Susan Sarandon in an Oscar-winning performance. This year Joel Coen directed his wife, Frances, to the same award.

Lord Lloyd-Webber and Sir Tim Rice collected statuettes for You Must Love Me, the night's only prize for Evita. Madonna had performed the song earlier in the ceremony. but Sir Tim described himself as "a bit detached from it", since he wrote the lyrics nearly 20 years ago. Lord Lloyd-Webber joked: "Thank heavens there wasn't a song in The English Patient."

Britain's other awards went to the composer Rachel Portman for her score for Emma and to Stuart Craig and Stephenie McMillan for art direction in The English Patient, now one of the most honoured films in Hollywood history and the first since The Last Emperor in 1988 to win nine Oscars. Ben Hur (1959) holds the record with 11.

"It was the best possible outcome; far better than I could have imagined and a tremendous shot in the arm for independent film-making." said an effusive Minghella as he toured the party circuit on Monday night with his wife and two children, Max, II, and Amanda, who was also celebrating her 18th birthday.

might not attract a mass TV audience because of its lessknown prize-hunters proved unfounded. There was poignance when Mohammed knowledge the Oscar for When We Were Kings, a documentary on their 1970s "Rumble in the Jungle" title fight in Zaire. Supported by the man he beat, Ali defied Parkinson's disease to take the

spiring so many people to read the book that its Canadian author Michael Ondaatje is estimated to have made more than £500,000 in royalties. Nearly 500,000 paperbacks have been sold - 180,000 in the past three weeks.



Juliette Binoche won the award for Best Supporting Actress, defeating Lauren Bacall

THE WINNERS

Best picture: The English Patient Actor: Geoffrey Rush, Shine Actress: Frances McDormand,

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Supporting actor: Cuba Gooding Jr., Jerry Maguire Supporting actress: Juliette

Binoche, The English Patient Director: Anthony Minghella. The

Foreign Republic film: Kolya, Czech

Screenplay (based on material previously produced or published): Billy Bob Thornton, Sling Blade Screenplay (written directly for the screen): Ethan Coen and Joel Coen.

Art direction: The English Patient Cinematography: The English

Sound: The English Patient Sound effects editing: The Ghost and the Darkness

Original musical or comedy score: Emma, Rachel Portman Original dramatic score: The English Patient, Gabriel Yared Original song: You Must Love Me

from Evita, Andrew Lloyd Webber Costume: The English Patient

Documentary feature: When We



Music score: Rachel Portman

Documentary (short subject): Breathing Lessons: The Life and Work of Mark O'Brien Film editing: The English Patient Makeup: The Nutty Professor Animated short films: Quest Live action short film: Dear Diary Visual effects: Independence Day Oscar winners previously

announced this year: Irving G. Thalberg memorial award: Saul Zaentz, producer Honorary award: Michael Kidd,

Scientific and technical Oscar: Imax Corp. for its large-format

A British film? No, you will just have to be patient

THE main character is Hungarian, the source material Canadian. The director is British, as are the lead actors: but the technicians fly the flags of all nations and the financing comes from America. Nothing was shot on British soil. This is The English Patient.

The film's victory at the Oscars tells as much about the predilection of the Academy voters. They like visually ravishing romantic epics with European flavour. They disdain popcom cinema. And who can blame them? In a year when characters have been trampled more than ever Fears that the 69th Oscars by aliens, tornadoes and computer effects, how refreshing dally in the desert with

Ralph Fiennes and Kristin But what do the film's nine film industry? In truth, there is no British film industry there has not been one since the studio system and its regular supply of product collapsed nearly 30 years ago. The English Patient proves it. To make a film of this magnitude, the director Anpodium for an ovation.

If the English Patient is inthony Minghella and his other winners had to embrace an American producer. Saul Zaentz. and journey abroad.

Lottery money may help fuse our disparate film ventures into an industry again. but that lies in the uncertain

Success for The English Patient is not a rebirth for the British film industry, writes Geoff Brown, our film critic

make films here — British films, not Hollywood product in disguise - they are smallscale, domestic offerings, often shaped by television money. Films such as Film Four International's Secrets and Lies, by Mike Leigh. It cars, from Best Film down-

wards, but received none. If it had won, British cinema could claim a real victory. It material, full of modern British phobias, repressions and class conflicts, could reach hearts and minds overseas.

Minghella's epic offers

sweeping camerawork, lus-

trous desert landscapes and the battleground of the Second World War. The crux of Leigh's drama lies with two people talking in a cafe near Holborn. For the Academy

voters, there was no contest. Yet the results give us enough reason to beat our own drum. If we cannot cherish our film talents properly at home, we certainly do a wonderful job of training them and offering them up to the world. The production designer Stuart Craig, awarded an Oscar for The English Patient, is one of the world's

very best in a field where British craftsmen have always excelled; this is his third win, following Dangerous Liaisons and Gandhi.

Recognition for Rachel Portman, for her music for Emma, has been longer in coming, though connoisseurs have always appreciated the colour and dramatic support her lilting scores gave to American films such as Used People and Only You.

In 1982, Colin Welland said "the British are coming" as he collected his script Oscar for Chariots of Fire. But the Down the decades, we have given Hollywood Chaplin. Hitchcock, Ronald Colman, and too many others to list. plus those ace scriptwriters Jane Austen and William Shakespeare.

Now we have offered up Anthony Minghella as the heir apparent of David Lean. He is being inundated with scripts, some of which he might shoot in this country. His win should be savoured, but it leaves our "film industry" in much the same state as before.



Isle of Wight celebrates

Continued from page I thing back to the island which has given me so much," he said. "A lot of the way I think and feel about life comes from growing up there." At the Medina Theatre in

and the same of th

Newport, where The English Patient is showing, all last night's tickets were sold. David Holder, box office manager, said: "We have been turning people away - it's been booked solid every night

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the island is pleased and says how wonderful that such a classy film should have been made by someone who came

from this community." Brian and Lorna Braiding were among those with tickets last night. "I'm really looking forward to seeing this," said Mr Braiding. "It makes it even better that The English Patient was made by someone from here - it has given this community quite a boost."

Last night Morris Barton, the council leader, who is on an exchange visit to Virginia, said: "News of Anthony's Oscar awards has been a tremendous filip for us in boosting the Isle of Wight.

"It could not have been timed better and we now expect thousands of Americans to visit Minghella country. He has put the Isle of Wight on



HE TIMES WEDINGS

has reserved a number of approaches from other

Board is pleased to tell you that after careful

onsideration and consideration with its external advisers it will be recommending that you accept

a proposal from Prudential. This proposal will retain Scottish Aunit rolls 2006 and all deliver excellent value to you, our policyholders. Scottish

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If ple a subsidiary of the Prudential. This means that we will

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proposal will be sent to you by letter in the next few days and a policyholder circular containing

full details is expected to be issued in May. This will include details of how the above benefits will be distributed among our 1.1 million With Profit

policyholders. You will then have the opportunity to vote on the proposals at

a Special General Meeting. The proposals are subject to 75% of all eligible

policyholders who vote being in favour. If approved, it is expected that the transfer

of Scottish Amicable to the Prudential will take place shortly thereafter. If after receiving your letter you have any questions then please call the Scottish

Amicable information helpline on 0345 888555.

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Any decision of voting should be based on the Policyholoer Circular which will ontain full details of your entitlement to vote. Further information at his principle.

You are a very dangerous woman, judge tells teenager who killed when she was 12

Youngest female murderer jailed for stabbing

By Daniel McGrory

BRITAIN'S youngest female murderer was ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure yesterday after being found guilty of killing a woman when she was just 12

Sharon Carr, now aged 17, stabbed 18-year-old hairdresser Karie Rackliff to death, a jury at Winchester Crown Court decided. The judge said it was in the public interest to name Carr, whose identity had not been revealed at the trial, and told her as he passed sentence: "You are a very dangerous young woman."

There were gasps of relief from Miss Rackliff's parents. who had sat in the public gallery of the packed courtroom as the verdict was announced. Her father, Joe, raised his arms above his head. Detectives will now interview Carr again in an attempt to find out who she was with on the night of the

Carr looked as though she had fainted as the jury of seven men and five women returned their guilty verdict after six hours of deliberation. She sat slumped in her seat as her defence counsel handed her a glass of water. But by the time her previous convictions were being read out the heavily built teenager stood smiling in the dock.

Outside the court Mr Rackliff stood with his wife, Helen, and his daughter Joanne, and told how he believed Carr deserved capital punishment and that he wished she would "rot in hell". He said the family were still distressed that others involved had not yet been caught.

The family had listened to evidence of how their daughter's body was found with multiple stab wounds near a cemetery at Farnborough, Hampshire, on June 7, 1992. She was last seen leaving Ragamuffins nightclub, where she had made an unsuccessful attempt at a reconciliation with her boyfriend. Staff remember "she seemed the worse for wear"

Her half-naked body was found four miles away five put it, turns you on."

hours later. The murder inquiry was one of the most intensive ever mounted by Hampshire police but they had no idea of Carr's involvement until her confession to a prison warder to whom she was sexually attracted.

During questioning she gave three different accounts of the night she killed Miss Rackliff, naming two boys. Police say they had nothing to do with the murder.

Carr had claimed Miss Rackliff tried to entice the boys away from her. Then she claimed she killed the attractive blonde hairdresser after the boys had raped her.

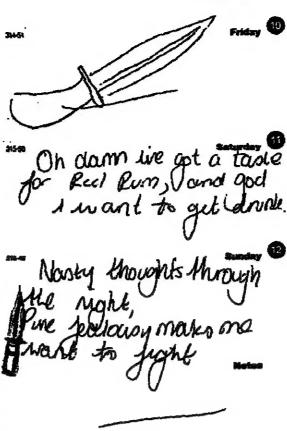
She later retracted all these stories but the jury heard how she gave away three crucial pieces of evidence that only the killer could have known. She had detailed knowledge

of Miss Rackliff's stolen bracelet, details of the scene of the crime and her admission how she had molested the victim after stabbing her at least 32 times with a seven-inch knife. Miss Rackliff suffered wounds to her heart, liver, lungs and stomach, and her private parts had been mutilated. The court also heard extracts from Carr's diaries and letters, in which she described the killing in gruesome detail. Tape recordings were played of her interviews with the police, in which she tells of Miss

Rackliff's screams. In her diary Carr said she decided to have "a payback life" because nobody had listened to her problems. She picked Miss Rackliff as a victim because "I needed to overcome her beauty, her serenity, her security".

In November 1995 she wrote: "Killing did me good. Now I know what I am capable of and I will do it again." Mr Justice Scott Barr told her: "What is clear is that you had a sexual motive for this killing and it is apparent both from the brutal manner in which you mutilated her body and chilling entries in your diary recording what you had done, that killing, as you







Sharon Carr's secret diaries contained pictures of knives, her grievances at society, and details of her feelings of sexual gratification at the murder of Katie Rackliff, right

Girl who thought she was a 'natural born killer'

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

THE diaries of Sharon Carr revealed how a precocious schoolgirl thought of herself as a "natural born killer who murdered one girl. stabbed another and tried to strangle two more women.

For three years she had kept the secret of how she mutilated and molested Katie Rackliff, an 18-yearold hairdresser, though she recorded in explicit detail the sexual gratification the killing gave her.

Carr. who was born in Belize, was caught only because she boasted about her crime to a woman prison officer, Annette Cini, whom she wanted to impress sexually. She was then at Bullwood Hall young offenders' institute after being convicted of stabbing a girl at Collingwood School in Camberley, Surrey, where teachers remember her as being a "polite, helpful and above-average student"

Susan Carpenter, the vice-princi-pal, said: "She had lots of older friends, boys and girls. A lot of the staff liked her, they found her very refreshing." She was describing a girl who by then had killed Katie Rackcliff by stabbing her 32 times. Some of the blows were so powerful the knife went right through the victim's body.

Mrs Carpenter believed it was after Carr had problems at home, with her parents separating, that she became aggressive and an attentionseeker who used her physical strength to bully other girls. In June 1994 -- almost two years to the day after Katle Rackcliff was killed -

Carr stabbed a 13-year-old girl in the back, puncturing a lung. The girl remembers staring at Carr's face. "I could see she was smiling, but she looked angry as well." Carr then pointed the three-inch blade at her victim and threatened to kill her if she told anyone.

It was while she was on remand at the Middlesex Lodge Assessment Centre in Hillingdon that Carr tried to strangle two women staff in separate attacks. In December 1994 she was convicted of causing griev-ous bodily harm and ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure. Despite hours of questioning by police, probation staff and social workers Carr never breathed a word about the murder.

Staff at Bullwood Hall encourage juvenile offenders "to confront their past" in discussion groups but it was Carr's "crush" on Miss Cini that motivated her to break her long

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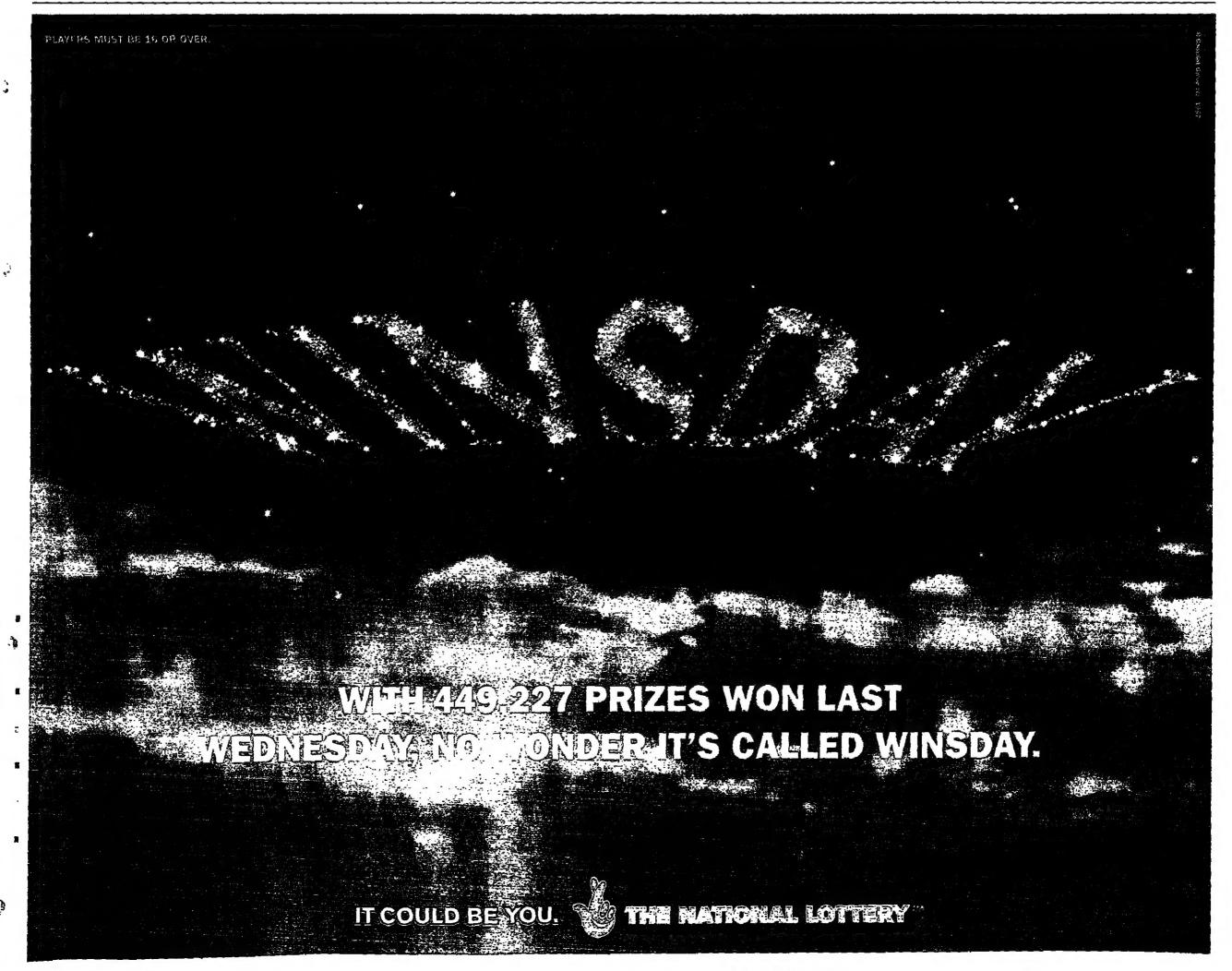
In the loft of her home in Camberley police found a scrap of paper on which she had written: "I'm killer: killing is my business and business is good." In letters to a friend she wrote: "I swear I was born to be a murderer" and boasted how she had "a heart of terror".

Diaries and poems contained graphic descriptions of how Katie's murder both thrilled and haunted her. One entry recorded how "I enjoyed putting the blade up her, it made me feel powerful".

On January 13, 1995, she wrote "Remember KR. Oh God she did get me going so hot, pity really. I think about it and my head is spinning but against the cops I'm winning." Carr told staff at Bullwood that she regretted never knowing her real father, who left her mother, Maria, shortly after she was born. She came to Britain when her mother married a soldier serving in Belize.

Since her first conviction Carr has been held at a number of young offenders' units but in January this year she was sent to Holloway Prison. A leading criminal psychologist, Professor Gordon Tressler, said he found it "very difficult to understand" the killing and had failed to find any precedents for it.

He described her as an "extremely dangerous person because she is clearly prepared to kill without an adequate motive". "That makes her conduct very unpredictable and very



HOME NEWS

Campaigners save Marconi Collection for Science Museum

SCIENCE EDITOR

THE Marconi Collection of historic items from the earliest days of radio is to be given to the Science Museum after a Uturn by the electronics firm GEC-Marconi, which originally planned to auction it.

The sale of 1.000 items of equipment and archives relating to Guglielmo Marconi's development of the invention was halted after protests. including one from Marconi's daughter, Princess Elettra Marconi, which appeared in The Times.

The auction was abandoned a month ago and the results of the negotiations, announced vesterday by the company, have resulted in a complete success for those apposed to the break-up of the collection. The Princess said it was wonderful news".

This is the best thing that could happen," she said from her home in Rome. "It's a wonderful day to think that the whole collection is saved and will remain in England."

The Science Museum, which will take responsibility for the long-term conservation of the 250 items of equipment and the 750 letters or documents, will lend many items for display in Chelmsford, where Marconi set up the first radio factory in the world. The berough council is planning to set up a science discovery centre and is hoping for money from the lottery fund.

be banned from performing

aerobatics after new figures

showed human error was to

blame for recent fatal crashes.

The Civil Aviation Authority

said yesterday that ill-judged

low-altitude aerobatics were

responsible for nearly one in

five fatal accidents in 1985-94.

The CAA recommends that

private-pilot licence holders be

banned from performing solo

aerobatics until they earn a

special aerobatic rating. Pilots

will have to attend special



Marconi's daughter wrote to The Times

Saving Marconi archive for nation From Mrs Elettra Marconi

Sir. I was appalled to read in The Times that the archives of the Chekus-ier "boset" room or "action are "o

ELETTRA MARCONI. Via Condoti II, Rome 0087. February 9.

The papers will go to the Essex County Council archive, where they will be available to scholars.

Sir Geoffrey Pattie, chair-man of GEC-Marconi, said that the company was "absolutely delighted" to have come to an agreement with the Science Museum. He said that, before deciding on the sale, the company had looked

Pilots' wings may be clipped after

aerobatics cause high death toll

The training syllabus for

flying instructors should be

reviewed, particularly in re-

spect of navigation and wea-

ther training, the CAA added.

A report showed there were

166 fatal accidents involving

light aircraft and helicopters

between 1985 and 94, with 234

people killed in fixed-wing

aircraft and 46 in helicopters.

The CAA said the three-year

moving average of accidents

over the ten years had fallen.

cy check every two years.

PILOTS of light aircraft may training and have a proficien-

at the options available for preserving the collection. but had not made much progress. Since the sale had been announced, he said, the company had received constructive proposals from the Science Museum and Chelms-

whole scene opened up." The company originally valued the collection at El million, now revised to £3 million. The proceedings of the sale were to be used to fund "Marconi Days" for teachers, organised by the Institution of Electronic Engineers and designed to raise their skills in electronics. Now GEC-Marco-ni will fund the initiative from

The items in the collection date back a century to when Marconi arrived in Britain from Italy with the aim of making radio communication a reality. He did so with the help of the Post Office, later founding the company that still bears his name.

other resources.

John Sutherland, a former managing director of Marconi Radar whose letter to The Times protesting about the sale was instrumental in rally-ing opposition, said yesterday: "I'm" absolutely delighted. This is an excellent decision from which everyone will benefit: the public, the Science Museum, Chelmsford and the good name of GEC-Marconi. No recriminations — this is the right thing to do and I'm

but added: "Most of the more

recent accidents, caused in the

main by human error, could

At present, private pilot

licence holders can continue to

fly without any proficiency

check providing they fly for at

least five hours every 13 months. The CAA said it

would also "review the avail-

ability, clarity and layout of all

information necessary in the

legal general aviation [light

United Kingdom for safe and

Ley or 15ED

have been avoided."



Dr Moses with Great Paul, the bell that was hung at St Paul's Cathedral in 1882

Lunch bell will ring out over City once again

BRITAIN'S largest bell has been restored and will chime at Ipm today at St Paul's Cathedral for the first time since 1991. Great Paul, the 17-ton bell that used to summon City apprentices back from lunch, has not been heard since the clapper cracked. The bell, cast in 1882 by John Taylors of Loughborough, was repaired by

Alvechurch after the law firm Baker and McKenzie, neighbours of St Paul's. stepped in with £10,000 towards the £25,000 cost after reading of the bell's plight in The Times. Dr John Moses. Dean of St Paul's, said: "We are delighted that Great Paul will be heard across the City once more."

Go-ahead puts Royal Opera on the road

By DALYA ALBERGE AND ALASDAIR STEVEN

PERFORMERS and promoters were breathing sighs of relief yesterday as it emerged that the Arts Council had approved two-year itineraries for the Royal Opera and the Royal Ballet, just 16 weeks before the two companies become homeless.

An official announcement is due on Thursday following a board meeting today at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, which is closing for two years for redevelopment. However, sources revealed that the Royal Opera's productions will range from The Merry Widow at the Shaftesbury Theatre in London, to Brinen's rarely heard Paul Bunyan at the East Anglian Opera Festival. The Royal Ballet's schedule will include Cinderella at the Royal Festival Hall and a tour of Japan.

The decision means that contracts with singers can be drawn up and venues leased. Long delays have led to confu-sion, with agents expressing frustration and potential sponsors feeling nervous. The management of the Royal Opera had not been able to book venues and artists until it had the go-ahead from the Arts Council, which in turn would not sanction expenditure until it had a schedule of performances.

Lord Chadlington, new chairman of the Royal Opera House board, told a recent meeting: The financial situarion is very serious. We have an accumulated deficit approaching £3.5 million at the end of the last financial year. In the current year, we are not know how much, but certainly by a significant sum. We have got to sort out the finances once and for all."

Immediate plans after the July closure also include short visits to New York's Metropolitan Opera House with the Royal Opera's Palestrina and the Royal Ballet's The Prince of the Pagodas. American

backers will pay travel costs. The Royal Opera will appear at the Edinburgh Festival and the Barbican Centre in London. The ballet company will perform Tchaikovsky at Labatts Apollo,

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Connolly: bad language

BBC earns swearing reprimand

The Broadcasting Standards Council has criticised the BBC for the use of offensive" language after 75 view-ers complained about a scries presented by the comedia Billy Connolly.

The BBC said that the extracts from Connolly's stage act, which contained the bad language, were integral to Billy Connolly's World Tour of Australia.

Hanratty delay

The family of James Hanratty, hanged in 1962, are disappointed because the Home Secretary has had no time to consider an appeal plea and has referred the case to the new Criminal Cases Review Commission.

Vote forms torged

Dilys Lewis, 37, was jailed for two months for forging eight proxy voting forms for elections to the new Rhoudda Cynon Taff Council in 1995. The former Mid Glamorgan councillor still failed by mure than 100 votes to gain a seat.

Towels too hot

Woolworths has had to pulp 250,000 copies of its quarterly. magazine Good Idea! after a spring cleaning tip back-fired. It suggested sterilising tea towels in a microwave oven but some readers' tow els burst into flames.

Drinks hiccup

The Victoria Wine Company is to review its promotions after it offered the Thanet Alcohol Project at Margate. Kent, which belos alcoholics. gift-wrapped bottles and interest-free credit on deliveries of wines and spirits.

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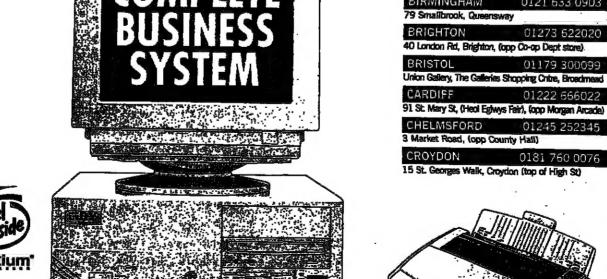
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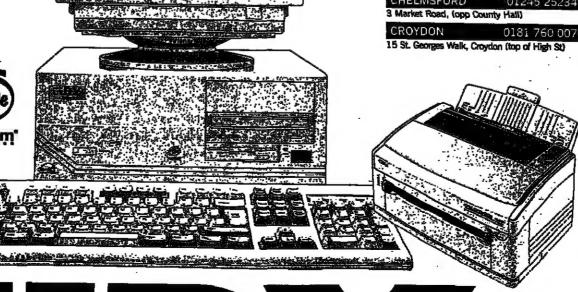
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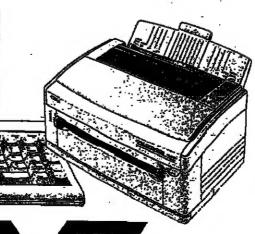
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Young stars are in a 'dangerous playground', says Sandie Shaw, counsellor

Pop survivor issues health warning to the Spice Girls

POP fame was given a health warning yesterday by the Sixties star Sandie Shaw, in a university conference on the dangers of stress to musicians. Ms Shaw, now 50 and a counsellor, singled out the Spice Girls as she talked of the risks in a "dangerous play-

In an age when even orchestral musicians were reported to be turning to drink and advised the pop singers com-peting for the adulation of teenage fans never to mistake their public images with

Modern pop stars from Oasis to the Spice Girls were forced to undergo the "painful process of growing up in the glare of the spotlight". Citing the deaths of Elvis Presley. Janis Joolin and Kurt Cobain as examples of those who found it impossible to cope with stardom, she said: Today's stars have a shorter shelf

Ms Shaw, from Dagenham, was just 17 when she rose to fame in the swinging London There's Always Something There To Remind

won the 1967 Eurovision Song was her last big seller, in 1969, although 15 years later she collaborated with the Smiths on their single Hand in Glove. That went to 27 in the charts. Her trademark gimmick was bare feet. The Spice Girls,

had four consecutive numberespousing a "girl power Speaking to an audience of professional classical musicians at a York University conference organised by the British Association for Per-

forming Arts Medicine Trust.

who bare rather more, have

Ms Shaw identified the Spice Girls as the "current symbol of sexual availability and youthful confidence". Urging artists to avoid burn-out by recognising that their public persona was just a pretence, she said: "Only one person can be top of the pops at any time and pressure is immense to keep on producing hits. Rock stars live a life

outside the boundaries and

limitations of ordinary mor-

excitement and fun, but it is a dangerous playground."



The stress counsellor: Ms Shaw yesterday. She said: "The pressure is immense"

rock stars could also wreck the lives of classical musicians. An international study of 1,600 professionals in 56 orchestras found that one in five took prescription drugs to calm their nerves before a perfor-

The study also discovered that one musician in ten had more than one month off a year through ill health. Others took beta-blockers to slow the heart beat or alcohol to cope

Jilly Black, the conference rganiser, said that Ms Shaw had been invited to provide a She added: "Because of her experience, Sandie is the ideal woman to talk about the pressures facing rock musi-cians, which we feel it is important our delegates know

Ms Shaw now concentrates her time on the Arts Clinic, a non-profit-making organisation in London devoted to the psychological well-being of artists, musicians and perfor-

She admitted to nerves before her unaccustomed public speaking role, but was accorded an enthusiastic reception

by the 200-strong audience. She said later: "It's the first time I've done this, so I was gripping the lectern for dear life. I prefer talking to an audience like this rather than performing because I do not have to play a role.

"Most of the people in the audience came from a classical background where there is a tendency to trivialise rock music, so I was walking a

I prefer counselling to singing, it's much more challeng ing. I still sing occasionally but only when people pay me a lot of money to do it."

Older mothers more likely to have triplets

more common than ever because older mothers are more likely to have multiple births, according to government statistics.

Growing numbers of women are delaying having children until their thirties or even forties because they are more likely to take a degree, find a career and use contraception than previous generations. Many who delay then give birth to two, three or more children — a likelihood which increases with a woman's age.

larger multiple births in-creased from 54 in England and Wales in 1938 to 289 in 1995, according to the Office for National Statistics. Twins have increased from 7,400 a year pre-war to 8,700 now.

Although much of the increase is because of fertility treatments, a detailed study published in yesterday's Population Trends shows that

TRIPLETS and twins are caused by the trend towards alder motherhood. The number of women getting pregnant in their late thirties has risen by 67 per cent since 1974, while there has been a decline in pregnancies among those in their twenties. Teenage pregnancy has more than

halved over the same period. A woman in her late thirties is three times as likely to have twins as a teenage mother. and twice as likely as a woman in her early twenties.

With triplets, the figures are even more striking. A woman in her late 30s is 17 times as likely as a teenager, and six times as likely as a woman in her early 20s, to have three or more babies at once.

Mysteriously, the propor-tion of identical twins is increasing. In 1938, there were three sets of non-identical twins for every pair of identical babies. Now nearly half of all twins are identical. The causes which make identical twins more likely are still

said an increase in the ed to the sharp rise in cases Renella Woll, senior leeterer in clinical oncology at Nottingham University,

and, as women are having fewer children and are delaying childbearing unthirties, that may be one of the reasons this form of

Jockey's grounding after fall preserves grey cells

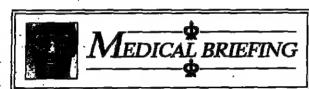
TONY McCOY, the 22-year-old jockey who had hoped to ride Belmont. King in the Grand National, was knocked unconscious when his horse fell at Unoxeter last Tuesday.

When doctors and paramedics study their watches as they gather around an injured jockey they are not only recording their patient's pulse and respiratory rate, but are taking careful note of filst how

The pop star: Sandie

the depth of his coma. The time a jockey is uncon-

long it is before the rider is



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

conscious for less than a minute may ride again after seven days: over a minute and three weeks. It was eventually agreed, after initial doubts, that McCoy had been unconscious for more than a minute at Uttoxeter, and as a result his 20-I mount at Aintree will now have to be ridden by

someone else. McCoy's brief period of unconsciousness would be classified as concushad recovered from his tumble, there was any residual

In concussion, much of the harm to the brain is caused by it being shaken about within the cavity of the skull. The consistency of the brain is similar to that of a well-set blancmange and so it is very sensitive to the effects of rapid acceleration or deceleration.

Although modern racing caps and spinal protection have greatly reduced the incidence of neurological injuries suffered by professional riders. X-rays of a jockey's skull often show that they are crisscrossed with old fractures.

More serious head injuries may result in torn blood vessels. At the time of the injury, when shock, pain and concussion may lower the blood pressure, the casualty may soon appear to be fully conscious and little injured. When the blood pressure returns to normal the severed blood vessel bleeds, and the patient may collapse with an intracerebral haemorrhage.

All head injuries, particu larly if they have caused even ntary unconsciousness must be taken seriously. Mc-Coy may well be grateful that the Jockey Club has worried about the preservation of his

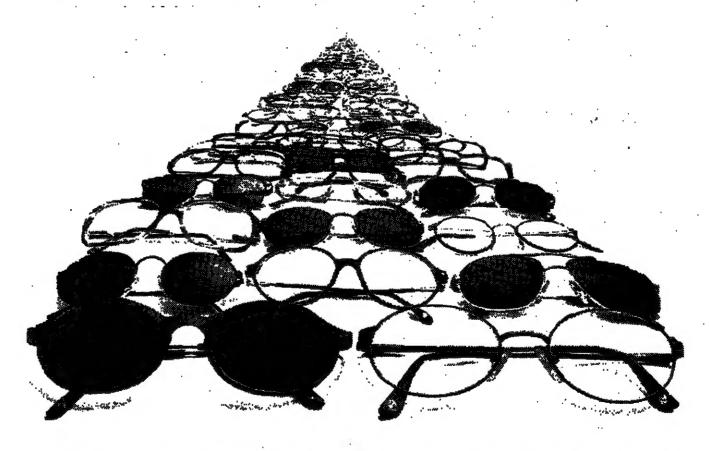




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in Weekend

Omdurman diary tells of the bloody cavalry charge to end them all

IT WAS a bloody flourish at the height of British imperialism — a traditional cavalry charge into the Infernal Regions": Frightful slaughter of enemy. Horrible sights of dead and dying. Men on all fours creeping, finally giving up and lying down to die. It seems to be blood, blood, blood everywhere."

So wrote Lieutenant Robert Smyth in a graphic account of bravery and carnage at the battle of Omdurman, nearly a century ago. His diary entry describes a battle in which superior weaponry overcame the fanatical Dervish hordes as the British Army mounted what is generally considered to be its last cavalry charge.

The 30-year-old Smyth, a general's son, led a platoon of the 21st Lancers which bore the brunt of the fighting. He had little sympathy to spare for the enemy. "It is like the Infernal Regions," he wrote in the diary for his sister, Alice. "I never saw anything so disgusting. Crowds of horses and donkeys all died. I believe the Soudanese [sic] raided and slaughtered the night after the



General Thomas Eastwood

way, every man we captured should have been shot at once then and there, cold blooded or not. If you had seen the condition of our dead

you would have said the same." The previously unpublished diary is to be sold tonight at the auction house of Henry Aldridge & Son in Devizes, Wiltshire, along with an archive of material relating to Smyth's nephew, General Thomas

Second World War, Both are offered by a member of the family. Smyth gripping account of Omdurman. which confirmed the British reconquest of the Sudan and avenged the death of General Gordon at Khartourn, is expected to fetch around ELOOD. His nephew's archive should make considerably more

Andrew Aldridge, the auctioneer. said yesterday "Reading Smyth's diary brings a lump to my throat 1 could see the battle untolding before

Despite the carnage, Smyth, who survived his wounds to become a much-decorated brigadier-general in the First World War, was proud to have taken part. "Wise or unwise. it was a brave deed nobly done. If proved that cavalry still existed and that we did not come here to play at mounted infantry

Earlier he wrote: Horses lame and galloping aimlessly Regular inferno. My left-hand man drops, his horse shot under him. Bullets whistling and splashing all around Every side a compact mass of whiterobed men, apparently countless. still firing and waving swords



The 21st Lancers' battle with the Dervishes at Omdurman conjured up "the Infernal Regions"

donkeys in my way, caren hold of horse hard by head, knowing to fall would be fatal. Am met by swardsman on foot. Cuts at my right from.

I guard it with sword. Next man with fat face, all in white, having fired, missed me, throw- up both hands, I cut him across the face. He drops, Large bearded man in blue, with two edged sword, cuts at me. Think this

time I must be done for. Duck my head to spear thrown which just misses me. Another cut at my horse but luckily only cuts through my breastplate and gives my horse a small flesh wound. See Major

The battle over, Smyth wrote: "Words are passed on, 'Poor Gren-fell killed', '2,000 men', 'Brinton

Wyndham running. Gallop to help

him. I am just too late."

shot and 'Poor little Smyth killed etc. (The Colonel, Montmorency, and Dauncey at first mistook Gren fell for me, he was so horrible munilated).

He went on: "No mess. No rations ... I was ill and in pain but I got some opium and other medicae and am now feeling all right again." The diary was written on September 4, 1898, two days after the battle.



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History of Russia wins book prize

BY ERICA WAGNER

ORLANDO FIGES'S SWEEPing historical study, A People's Tragedy: The Russian Revolution 1891-1924 (Cape, 125), has beaten such literary contenders as Margaret Atwood's Alias Grace (Bloomsbury) and Graham Swift's Last Orders (Picador)

ory, has described Mr Figes as the leading historian of Russia of his generation. The author, a university lecturer in history and Fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge, is the son of the novelist Eva Figes and the brother of the

Hitman parents walk free

to win the £10,000 1997 W H Smith Literary Award. Norman Stone, Oxford Professor of Modern Hist-

writer Kate Figes.
Mr Figes said yesterday:
"History is a part of literature. This seems part of a trend. Quite a lot of historians have picked up prizes for literary endeavours, history is returning to narrative and returning to the general readpride." Hermione Lee's Virginia Woolf (Chatto) was the only other non-fiction work Deane's Reading in the Dark (Cape) and Roddy Doyle's The Woman Who Walked Into Doors (Cape) were also on the list.

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A COUPLE who hired a hitman to beat up their daughter's violent lover walked free from court yesterday.

John Llewellyn, a businessman, and his wife. Maureen. both 50, had described a fouryear "living nightmare" after their daughter fell for a schizophrenic. Mrs Llewellyn said: "It was just our love for her that led us to this drastic

The couple met Stephen Pellow, a security expert, after their daughter's lover had struck her days after she gave birth. The intended hitman went to the police and the couple, from Michaelstoney-Fedw, near Newport, were

Charges of soliciting murder were dropped but Mr Llewellyn admitted soliciting Mr Pellow to commit grievous bodily harm and was given a two-year suspended jail sentence. Mrs Llewellyn admitted soliciting to cause actual bodily harm and was put on

After being released yesterday, the couple hussed outside Swansea Crown Court and said it was the end of "our nightmare". "Mr Llewellyn said: "I'm very relieved that the judge has shown compassion. It was terrible seeing our daughter suffer."

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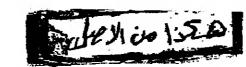
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Lottery millions fund construction as big as 13 Albert Halls — but what goes inside remains a mystery

Lift-off for dome starts millennium countdown

ON PAPER, the Millennium Dome looks not unlike a giant whoopee cushion pierced with cocktail sticks. In reality, it will be big enough to take 13
Albert Hails — or 50,000
people. The "cocktail sticks"
are steel lattice girders over 100m high, each supporting a forest of tension wires.

Only in the planning appli-cation, which has now been approved by Greenwich council, does the stupendous scale of the dome, designed by the Richard Rogers Partnership, become apparent the dimensions have been expanded so that the diameter measures 360m instead of 320m.

The second

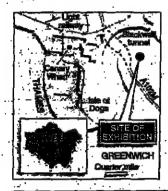
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The organisers, renamed firm offer of £200 million of lottery cash, plus a guarantee of £250 million from the Millennium Commission. The latter is subject to reassessment, but not cancellation, by an

The contract for the steel will be signed within the month and McAlpine Laing are on board as construction managers. Debate is still rag-ing about the fabric roof.

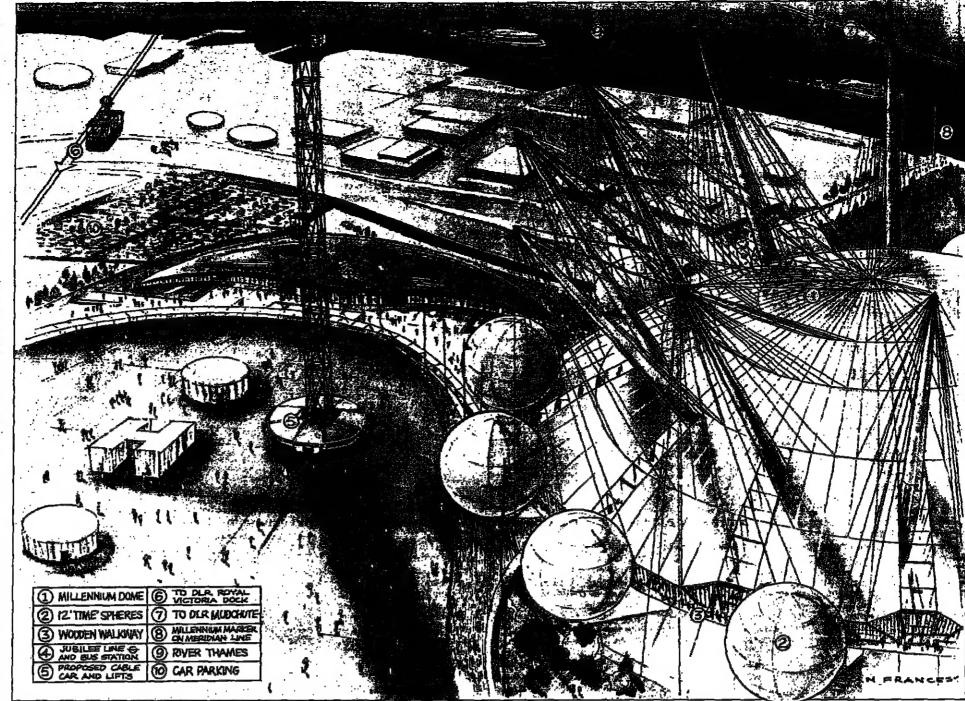


Greenpeace has objected vig-orously to the use of PVC, which it claims is noxious in both manufacture and disposal, producing vast quantities of carcinogenic dioxins. For the organisers, PVC is simply far cheaper than any of the alternatives.

Another problem is what to do with the the dome after the two-year Millennium Exhibition ends. Millennium Central is committed to taking it down unless they can convince English Partnerships, the owners of the site, otherwise. A favoured long-term solution is the creation of a "sports city". The clear floor space is large enough for football, athletics or a velodrome. However, the Sports Council is unlikely to make a commitment until it sees the dome in action.

It also remains to be seen whether the dome can attract sufficient visitors to fuel the revised budget, down from £700 million to £583 million. Initial forecasts were based on an average ticket income of £20 a head from 12 million visitors over two years. The 1994 Seville Expo attracted 52 million visitors but that was an international event and included many repeat visits. The Greenwich exhibition is very definitely a national af-

The exhibition designers, Imagination, originally planned that the central theme would be a play on time, but this has a ring of Disney's well-established Epcot in Florida. The main attractions are now likely to be events held under the centre of the dome, in the style of Lloyd-Webber



The Millennium Exhibition site at Greenwich features a massive dome, new Underground and bus stations and, possibly, a cable car system spanning the River Thames

extravaganzas, staged be-tween two to six times a day and lasting an hour to 90 minutes. They will feature such broad themes as spirituality, the young, education and ecology. More events could be held in the plaza outside, possibly including circuses and the Royal Tour-

A major problem for the organisers is the blasted-heath

appearance of the site. There is not a tree to be seen and, capped over beneath the surface, are decades of industrial pollution. With all the building work, there is unlikely to be a blade of grass growing on December 31, 1999, and trees will have to be planted on raised banks to avoid their roots touching poisoned soil. Although the exhibition is to

have conceded that many visi-tors will arrive by road and nearly half the site is taken up by parking space. The good news is that the Jubilee Line Underground extension, to be opened in September next year, goes into the heart of the site, to a spectacular new underground station by the architect Will Alsop (with a bus station by Sir Norman Foster on top). Tube journey

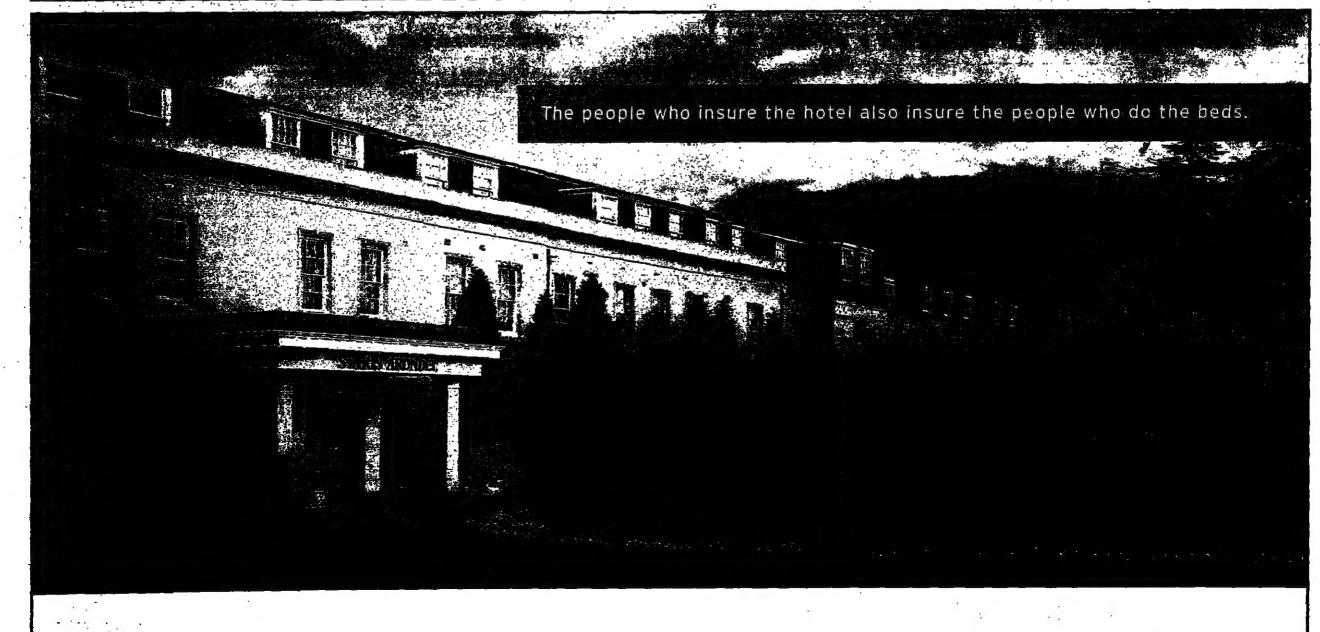
times from Waterloo are 15 minutes, and less from Stratford. London Transport says it can run up to 30 trains an hour in each direction.

A commercially funded cable car system, linking the exhibition site with two Docklands Light Railway stations north of the river, is another possibilty. However, the best way to arrive will be by water.

which are to be refurbished. Jenny Page, chief executive of Millennium Central, said: We are looking at park-and-sail at Barking. We'll provide facilities but not subsidies for river boat operators and I'm confident the exhibition will be a long-term boost to river

The 1,000-day countdown to the Millennium will begin on April 6. While the dome may completion, the content of the exhibition has still to be decided. The lottery millions are riding on Imagination's Gary Withers, the designer best known for his dramatic floodlighting of the Lloyd's building. The British calendar is packed with ever more successful events and festivals and Mr Withers is well aware that he has to cap them all.

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Heseltine revels in the pressures of office

WHITEHALL EDITOR

THE post of Deputy Prime Minister should never become a formal part of the constitution, Michael Heseltine said

He did not refer to Tony Blair and his relationship with John Prescott, but his target was unmistakable.

I would not advise a Prime Minister to regard it of right, unless you have that very personal relationship," he said. "It is a job of great potential but it cannot be done if the relationship is not based on mutual trust and respect. If that does not exist I would advise a Prime Minister not to create it."

Mr Heseltine has been Mr Major's official deputy since July 1995, occupying a light overlooking the Downing Street garden. The office is hung with paintings from the government art collection, selected by his wife, Anne. It was previously used for conferences and receptions but at 29ft square is short of the size of a tennis court, to which it was likened when Mr Heseltine moved in.

The last time a minister was awarded the seals of office as First Secretary of State was when Barbara Castle was given the honour in 1968-70. Mr Heseltine's role has been markedly different. He has operated as the Prime Minister's chief troubleshooter in Whitehall, driving through the legislative business and resolving divisions between ministers. He has coordinated the presentation of government policy and acted as a conduit for backbenchers

to air their concerns. "As a committee chairman with the authority of this job I



Michael Heseltine in his office. "Banging heads together sounds like blood and guts on the floor and I can say clearly that is not my style," he said

sounds like blood and guts on the floor and I can say clearly

that is not my style."

Mr Heseltine sits on fourteen Cabinet committees. chairs nine and has the authority of the Prime Minister to attend any Cabinet subcommittee he chooses.

When Mr Heseltine arrived at the Cabinet Office he introduced a management system every Cabinet post but one that disappears as soon as he

noves department. He set up the daily strategy meeting to co-ordinate policy and insisted that Whitehall departments feed information into the Cab-E-Net computer system to signal policy announcements, potential problems and issues likely to arise.

Today a call from the Depu-Prime Minister's office to The influence Mr Heseltine another minister has the potreated seriously by officials and ministers. But Mr

Heseltine said: "The only varience in Cabinet. He was sensitive to the political reality lidity of the call to another of his new post and knew that minister is that people know it is being done with the PM's block him. But he has won the support. The office would be respect of senior colleagues. greatly duminished if it did not who dubbed him the Jacques carry the PM's authority."

Senior officials in Whitehall the office in the Cabinet Office has litted a burden from the Prime Minister, Mr Heseltine however is reticent: "The Prime Minister is a man who draws burdens on himself. He works prodigiously. If I take away some of the load then it is because he fills the gap with other things he wants to do." Mr Heseltine said that any

government would be split at

the top if there was not a close

personal relationship between the Prime Minister and his

You must remember that Cabinet colleagues have clear views and there is always the

why you have to have the trust of the PM and the support of colleagues in this role.

A political source said last week: "Mr Heseltine picks up the phone and will ask a senior colleague to come and have a word on something. They do not take exception because he is doing it. It might be a bit different if John Prescott told Robin Cook or Gordon Brown he was a bit worried about something on

Redwood supports right to campaign over race

BY ADRIAN LEE AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

PORY election candidates should have the right to make immigration a campaign issue, the former Welsh Secretary John Redwood said

yesterday. Speaking in Enoch Powell's former constituency of Wolverhampton South West, he: gave his support to the siming-MP. Nicholas Budgen, who believes that Labour will operate a more open policy on immigration and who has threatened to campaign on the issue in defiance of John Major's wishes.

Yesterday Mr Redwood visited a factory in Wolverhampton run by an Asian businessman, John Matto, who supports strict controls on immigration. Mr Redwood said that immigration was bound to become an issue in constituencies where there was a large ethnic population. "It is inevitable if Labour is going to put forward such radical plans that people want to ask questions," he said.

Mr Budgen has been accused of raising fears over immigration to save his career. He is defending a majority of less than 5,000. He said he believed that a Labour government would result in a major influx of Asian males and it was a scandal that Labour would not discuss the issue. "We have not had the rivers of blood ipredicted by Mr Powell| because we have had strict immigration controls," he said.

Mr Major, in Birmingham yesterday on the latest leg of his campaign tour, urged his colleagues in the region to avoid making immigration an issue in the run up to the election. The Prime Minister, who was visiting Baverstock School in King's Heath, was pressed over the decision by Mr. Budgen and other West Midlands MPs to raise the issue of immigration at a local

1<u>25</u> 4

He denied that the MPs were "playing the race card" Conservative MPs to cam-paign for the same rights for every person, irrespective of background, race, colour or religion. "As far as I am concerned, they have the same rights, the same opportunities. the same choices and the same obligations as everyone else and that is the Conservative

D Paddy Ashdown coined a day, urging politicians to be less stuck up and get more stuck in". The Liberal Democrat leader used the phrase after using a JCB to shovel plastic bottles at a recycling plant in Surrey.

Rifkind and Cook are closer on Europe than they pretend

resentful Cabinet could

Chirac of the Government -

he can see problems coming.

The Tories and Labour are both misleading voters over the choices facing Britain in Europe. Malcolm Rifkind and Robin Cook yesterday exaggerated the differences between what a re-elected Major and a Blair government would do. The real contrast is less one of policy than of attitude

Mr Rifkind yesterday played the Churchillian "if essary, alone" card in re-

sponse to the new Dutch presidency proposals for the Amsterdam summit in June. These propose extending the remit of Brussels institutions to include defence, foreign, and immigration policies which are at present decided nounced the proposals as another lurch in a federalist direction. This can hardly have gone down well with other European leaders gathered in Rome to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the treaty setting up the European Community, though the remarks were presumably aimed more at a domestic audience.

But behind the indignant rhetoric, Mr Rifkind's response to the Dutch paper is virtually the same as Mr Cook's. If you add on a sceptical attitude towards an early start to a single currency, then the two main parties have a

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

broadly similar approach with the Liberal Democrats as the only unambiguously prointegrationist party.

The alternative offered by Mr Cook yesterday was pretty thin. Labour, he said, is "the party that can do business in Europe and will take Britain off the sidelines and make Britain a leading player in the

mixture of good intentions and hot air. Some is what the present Government has been doing for some time like bringing down the barriers that stand in the way of completing the European single market", pressing for "a flying start to the negotiations on enlargement of the EU". and being "tough on fraud against the European budget". A new Labour government would not have a magic wand to achieve more than

team". His approach was a

Similarly, it is merely a pious hope for Mr Cook to say munity budget", notably a cut in the share taken by the common agricultural policy. from French, German, Span-

the Tories have tried to do in

ish. Greek etc farmers and their politicians. Mr Cook's call for measures to achieve economic stablity across the EU via a European recovery fund implies additional public spending and European resources hardly welcome to Iron Chancellor Gordon Brown. Mr Cook has a point that Labour is not opposed to a single currency in principle. as many, if not most, Tory MPs are. But in practice Mr Cook, if not Mr Brown, is as cautious about a single currency as the Tory leadership. Mr Cook is more persua-

sive in arguing that a Blair government would adopt a tiations, and be less confrontational and negative than the Tories now are. Unlike Mr. Major, Mr Blair would not have to worry about Cabinet and internal party dissent over Europe, at least initially. He would have freedom of manoeuvre to reach a deal at

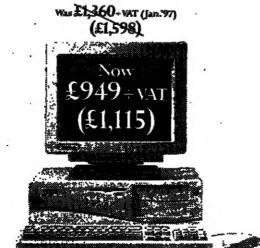
ference, notably over extensions of qualified majority voting, tidying up the powers of the European Partiament and signing up to the social chapter. This is the real gap on policy with the Tories, and Labour is fuzzy about how far it would, or be able to, oppose new measures adding to business costs. But that is very far from saying Labour would sign up to a "federalist" The choice on Europe is

the inter-governmental con-

over the ability to deliver a coherent policy. For the mo-ment, the Tories cannot because of their deep divisions. A Labour government might be able to. But with the important exception of social policy, the broad thrust of the British approach may change less than the parties pretend Britain is still unlikely to be at the heart of Europe.

PETER RIDDELL

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Leading Tories are linked with seat of MP who quit

By Magnus Linklater

SCOTTISH Tories moved quickly yesterday to limit the damage caused by the surprise resignation of the MP Allan Stewart as candidate for their safest seat.

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Mr Stewart, a former Scottish Office Minister, is standing down from his Eastwood constituency on health and personal grounds after press reports linked him with a married woman he is said to have met while attending a clinic specialising in alcohol problems.

Last night the names of three leading party figures were among those being mentioned as possible successors. Sir Michael Hirst, the party chairman, and former MP for Strathkelvin and Bearsden, refused to rule himself out of the race. "No one ever says never in life," he said, adding: "If I was approached by the association then I would obviously give the matter serious consideration."

Annabel Goldle, deputy chairman of the party, would be another obvious choice, as would Jackson Carlaw, party vice-chairman and a former chairman of the Eastwood Conservatives. Adrian Shinwell, vice chairman of the Eastwood association ruled himself out as a candidate but said that he believed someone senior in the party would be a likely choice. Last night, Ian

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

TONY BLAIR choic a achool-

room in Aberdeen yesterday

to launch a proposal for an

American-style anti-drugs

supremo who would co-ordi-

nate Labour's policy on drugs and report directly to a Cabi-

At Dyce Academy, Mr Blair

told an audience of 13 and 14-

year-olds that he would ap-

Muir. chairman of the Eastwood association, emphasised that there was no question of being rushed.

The association executive will be meeting tonight to consider a shortlist, but any recommendation has to go to the association's members for approval. We have to have a candidate in place before the April 16 to allow him or her the fullest opportunity to fight the campaign," Mr Muir said. Both Labour and the Scot-

tish National Party, while paying tribute to Mr Stewart as a strong and likeable MP. lost no time in capitalising on the episode. Jack McConnell. general secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, said: "The Tory campaign has been a disaster since last Monday because they have no ideas left for the country." He pointed out that senior figures in the party, including Michael Forsyin, the Secretary of State, had so far been notable for their absence. Michael Russell, chief executive of the SNP, said: "Top Tories will be fighting like ferrets in a sack over this vacancy."

However, senior Tory officials remained confident that despite the setback they would buck the trend and hold onto their key seats, including Mr Forsyth's Stirling constituency. "It's interesting that Lab-

Blair warns pupils off drugs

educate young people not to

take drugs. The appointment

would signal the determ-

ination of a Labour govern-

ment that it was "not prepared

to tolerate the waste of any

more young lives". He asked

pupils if they had ever been

offered drugs, then told them:

Yesterday the Church of

Scotland called for a Royal

Commission to be appointed

Just say no".

key question that we have put to them arising from their recently launched Covenant for Scotland," one senior Tory said. "Instead, Tony Blair in Aberdeen preferred to talk about the Spice Girls."

The Glasgow suburb of Newton Mearns, the Conservative heartland of the Eastwood constituency, reacted with a mixture of sympathy and cynicism to news of their MP's resignation yesterday.

In the shopping centre many were not unduly surprised by the allegations about Mr Stewart's private life or his health. Many expressed sadness that someone who had worked hard for Newton Mearns was stepping down in such circumstance and so close to the general election. But the over-riding opinion

was that his absence would make no significant difference to the Conservative majority of 11,688 in Eastwood. Kath Chalmers, a mother of

three, said: "This is to do with his personal life and is nothing to do with his life as an MP. He has done all right for this town and I think most people will be supportive." Robert McCracken, 69, of

nearby Barrhead, said: "I don't vote Tory, but I quite liked him. He seems to be more sensitive than most MPs and maybe he just couldn't

cannabis. The call was de-

nounced by Mr Blair and by

Ian Oliver, the Chief Consta-

ble of Grampian Police and

the man tipped to become Labour's anti-drugs supremo.

Mr Blair said: "I'm against it

because it leads to hard

drugs." Dr Oliver said the

Church was "pandering to a liberal attitude" which could

Leading article, page 19

cause great harm.



Allan and Susie Stewart outside their country home yesterday. Below, Mrs Knight

Silent Stewart stays home with the family

BY A STAFF REPORTED

ALLAN STEWART was happy to pose with his wife outside their country home in Neilston yesterday but refused

to talk to reporters.

He rubbed his hands against the cold and smiled for the cameras before putting his arm protectively around his wife, who stood silently by his side. He refused to comment on his resignation letter, which said recent press reports about his personal life and his health had caused

The letter, which was delivered to the Eustwood constituency office at opm on Monday, said: "After discussing my health and position with Susie, who has always been so

Member of Parliament for Eastwood, I have decided to resign as prospective parliamentary candidate."

At the weekend a tabloid newspaper linked Mr Stewart, 54, to Catherine Knight, 41, a married mother of four. The paper said Mrs Knight had been a regular visitor to his London flat, which overlooks the Oval cricket ground.

The allegations followed on from his recent admission that he attended an alcohol rehabilitation centre in Peebles last winter. "I have nothing to add to my statement yesterday, I have made a statement and that's it, but I'm perfectly happy to pose for photographs," he said. Mrs Knight declined to comment.

Voters given little to cheer in fight of few punches

THE television election battle has turned this week to the economy, with the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and his shadow, Gordon Brown, both refusing to put their heads above the parapet or risk all-out attack.

The Clarke line is the old Harold Macmillan boast of You've never had it so good", while warning viewers that Labour is bound to spoil it. Brown intones that Labour can be trusted to spend and tax no more than the Tories. There is not much difference between the two.

The two heavyweights met on Monday on Newsnight, with Peter Snow refereeing, a venue that suggested at least a few bruises and perhaps a cut or two above the eye. But this was no boxing match. They seemed more like sumo wrestlers shoving and sweating their way around a small space that both needed to occupy. Neither gave an inch, nor would risk going too far on the offensive lest he expose a weak flank.

Both have been warming up since the election was called. Mr Clarke has set out his stall at two morning press conferences live from Central Office, reading without passion from a dreary script. Mr Brown went a sparring round on Sunday with John Humphrys on On The Record, and he stalled and stonewalled even when there was nothing new to give away.

When the big fight arrived, both refused to come out of their corners. What is going on? Whatever hap-pened to the roly-poly Clarke who loved to mix it with his opponent, a pint of beer in one hand, a cheroot in the other? Where was the pugilist in the Garrick tie and suede shoes who used to alip

the stiletto in with a chuckle? Mr Brown has quite other virtues. His wit is slow, his style ponderous. An endearing smile plays around his lips when asked a question, but there is no attempt to

endear himself with the television audience. He is the master of detail, a swot who has worked long and hard to acquaint himself with every eventuality. But he is damned if he is going to pass

off his labours as effortless. The big debate soon ran aground. Mr Brown said that manufacturing invest-ment was down; Mr Clarke said no, investment as a whole was up. Mr Brown insisted that manufacturing investment was down: Mr Clarke said he was looking at one month's figures; Mr Brown said no, they were for a year. And so it went on, like two brothers bickering.



TV WATCH NICHOLAS WAPSHOTT

opportunities. Mr Clarke made great play of Mr Brown's refusal to list the companies hit by Labour's utilities tax when he might better have taken the side of the innocent recent investor hit by such an arbitrary tax. It all ended in stalemate, as if both men had conspired to keep the electorate in the

The dog not allowed to bark was the question of Britain's entry into the single European currency, which will be decided in the next Parliament. Where would that lead their promises of a better tomorrow? Would we be better off in or out? Their answers would have been

to consider the legalisation of point a "drugs caar" to belp to



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The tax year ends on 5th April, so time's running out if you want to take advantage of this year's PEP allowance. For most people, the decision to invest in a PEP is easy the problem is deciding which of the hundreds of PEPs available is the right one.

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KAI PEATENBACH REUTER

Colony land sells for £150m an acre

Hong Kong: A 6.3-acre plot of land here was sold for £950 million yesterday in what experts described as probably a world record as well as a resounding vote of confidence in the territory's future.

The 275,369 sq ft site at Chai Wan, on the northeastern edge of Hong Kong island, was bought from the Government for £150 million an acre by Sino Land for residential and commercial use. Sino Land sealed the deal after the longest auction in the colony's history - a buying frenzy that began at £522 million and ended 24 hours later.

"As far as Hong Kong is concerned, this is certainly a record price," Herbert Leung, the government auctioneer, said.

Michael Green, Salomon Brothers director, said the price "is probably the highest price paid at auction for any site ever in the world, "It equates to £435 per square foot before one's even put a building

Robert Ng. chairman of Sino Land, asked whether he believed that the firm had confidence in the future of Hong Kong under Chinese rule, just 98 days away, said: "You ask me this question after we [pay this sum]? Are you crazy?" (AFP)

Angry workers challenge power of German banks

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

short of a full merger. But the MORE than 20,000 angry unions are nervous that even steelworkers yesterday prothis will entail big job cuts and tested against the power of that the role of the banks is Germany's banks in a direct still destructive. challenge to the financial system that has ruled the country Klaus Zwickel, chairman of

Foundry workers made bonfires of bank statements in

Frankfurt's financial quarter

and chanted: "We will not be cheated out of our jobs."

Union activists blocked the

paths of nervous stock ana-

lysts and urged them to with-

draw their accounts from the

banks targeted by the work-ers. In Dortmund, 6,000 work-

ers in Krupp-Hoesch went on

The demonstrators, who

had been bussed in from the

Ruhr and other industrial

regions, blame Deutsche and

Dresdner banks for helping to engineer Krupp's £5 billion hostile takeover bid for Thys-

sen and thus putting tens of

thousands of jobs in peril. The

unprecedented bid was with-

drawn on Monday afternoon

and the companies say they

are close to securing a work-

ing arrangement stopping

since the Second World War. the IG Metall union - one of the most powerful in Europe The protests were staged in Frankfurt, mainland Europe's - launched a blistering attack on the influence of the banks. financial capital, and some To loud applause he said they newspapers warned that the were creating a "casino capibarracking of Germany's pritalism that has become a vate banks could soon spill over into demonstrations danger to the general public". against the European Central Bank as controller of the euro.

6 Who rules in Germany? The elected representatives

or boardroom bankers? 9

Workers whistled and cheered when he added: "The banks are destroying the political culture of our country. Behind our backs, with secret general staff-like planning, they pre-pared a move which extinguishes our jobs. Parties and parliaments have to ask themelves: who rules in Germany? The democratically elected representatives or the bankers in the boardrooms?

The close co-operation of

banks with industrial companies has been the very essence of the German economy since the war and has roots in the 19th century. As workers are guaranteed seats on supervisory hoards there have been few challenges.

But the conflict of interest exposed in the steel takeswer bid, with the same banks sitting on the boards of two rival companies, has coincided with painful social spending cuts and a general decline of heavy industry. This mixture has sparked revolt.

Krupp came under pressure to withdraw the hostile bid. described as "Wild West capitalism" by the Bonn Govern-ment and by the Social Democrat-controlled administration of North Rhine-Westphalia. The banks, too, have "re-

viewed their positions" and concluded that the financial advantages of a takeover were probably outweighed by the social costs and, above all, by the loss of image.

The workers said yesterday that they would continue to protest until guarantees were given that there would be no compulsory redundancies.

Coalminers recently won a similar concession from Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, in return for accepting cuts in mining subsidies and pit

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Steelworkers demonstrate in Frankfurt over the role of bankers in a hostile takeover bid

Paris to rebuild memorial for last

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

PARIS city authorities have agreed to erect a new memorial to the last Frenchman executed for "crimes of implety", more than two centuries after he was burnt at the stake and 56 years after the Nazis melted down an original bronze statue depicting his martyrdom

François-Jean Le Fefebyre, better known as the Chevalier de La Barre, was put to death in 1766 and later became a of religious intolerance. Recent electoral advances by the extreme right-wing National Front, coupled with fears that bigotry is again on the rise. have led to a renewal of interest in the short life and brutal death of La Barre, one of France's most celebrated

lay martyrs. The execution of the Chevalier de La Barre, at the age of 20, was a grisly affair. Accused of mutilating a crucifix, he was sentenced to have his tongue torn out, his hand severed and his head cut off before being burnt in two

separate instalments. Among other blasphemies. La Barre was charged with singing impious songs and failing to take off his hat to a passing procession of Capu-chin friars, but his only 'crime" appears to have been membership of a rowdy group of young people" with advanced ideas about individual liberty. His supporters included Voltaire, who vowed to fight "the monster of intol-erance" and noted that the gruesome barbarities inflicted on the young man "took place not in the 13th or 14th centuries, but in the 18th".

The great French lawyer Simon Linguet mounted a stirring but ineffective defence of "this unfortunate child, prostrate at the feet of the judge". The Chevalier was rehabilitated as a hero after the French Revolution in 1789.

La Barre's tragic end inspired numerous books and a cult following, and in 1905 Georges Clemenceau, shortly before he became Prime Minister, unveiled a bronze statue to his memory. In 1941, however, the occupying Nazi troops melted it down to provide bronze for the German war effort. Only the plinth commemorating La Barre remains at the foot of Sacré-Coeur basilica in Montmartre.

"The memory of this young



martyr to liberty

man deserves to be given another monument worthy of his name," said Claudine Tailhades, founder of the new International Chevaller de La Barre Association. "La Barre symbolises all that is freedom of expression, of thought, of conscience, because at the moment there is a resurgence of religious and political fanaticism linked to the rise of

the Far-Right." Earlier this munth the local council in the 18th arrondissement of Paris voted that one million francs (£125,000) be spent on a new monument. over what type of memorial was appropriate.

The Paris Office of Culture insists that "a more stimulating concept" than the doomed man strapped to a stake should be found.

Solution closer in Lima siege

poly ree F

Lima: A solution to the hostage crisis at the Japanese Ambassador's residence here seemed closer last night after Carlos Hermoza, the Justice Minister, said between 200 and 250 prisoners unjustly accused of terrorism and detained across the country will be freed. He gave no date.

Although he insisted there was no link between this release and negotiations on the hostage crisis, his remarks came after mediators spent all day talking to government officials and Tupac Amaru Revolutionary rebels on Monday. (AFP)

Security scare for Gingrich

Scoul: Newt Gingrich, Speak-er of the House of Representatives, was forced to cancel a briefing at the demilitarised zone dividing North and South Korea after a North Korean soldier carrying a rifle was spotted in the area. Mr Gingrich, touring Asia, said later America was committed to the defence of South Korea, where 37,000 US troops guard the border. (Reuter)

Villagers free Shell hostages

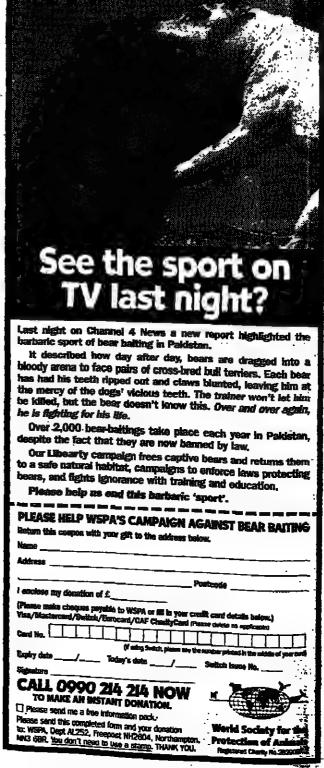
Lagos: Shell Oil says that 31 of its staff and contractors held in Nigeria by feuding communities have been freed. A spokesman said that 90 people were still being detained at six flow stations which the villagers have occupied since the weekend in protest against the relocation of local government

Party ousts Milosevic foe

Belgrade: Milo Djukanovic, pro-Western premier of Montenegro, resigned from the ruling pro-Serbian Socialist Party after coming under harsh criticism for attacking President Milosevic of Serbia. His removal suggests that Mr Milosevic is regaining political strength. (AP)

Russia arrests officer as spy

Moscow: Russia's Federal Security Service has caught a senior officer in the strategic missile command who was preparing to sell defence secrets to a foreign power, Russian news agencies reported, but provided no further details. (Reuter)





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Holy Land riots force pilgrims to cancel Easter tours

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

HE Foreign Office warned The threat of more violence fitish travellers yesterday to over Har Homa was depicted aoid the West Bank and Gaza in freshly painted slogans Srip as Palestinians clashed from Hamas, the Islamic Rewith Israeli troops in the West sistance Movement. New Ank for the sixth successive army and police roadblocks have sprouted throughout Is-As the protests against the uilding of Jewish homes at rael to prevent more suicide attacks, and armed police

ar Homa, in annexed east

alem said Easter in the Holy

Land had become "a dead

season", with thousands of

pilgrims rushing to cancel

Bishop Kamal-Hanna Bat-

ish, deputy head of the Roman

Catholic Church, told mem-

bers of the Foreign Press

Association: "Everyone who

was planning to visit for

Easter celebrations and has

been able to cancel has done

so. There is also a risk that if

the violence continues for a

long period, it could affect

plans by millions of pilgrims

to mark the millennium, what

we call The Great Jubilee, in

the Holy Land."

bookings.

rusalem, escalated, Israel's of the Old City. hief of Staff said, "It will There is no one coming to the shops. There is a bad feeling that the intifada is ean war" if Palestinians take p guns. The protests and last eek's suicide bomb attack at going to begin all over again," Tel Aviv café are beginning said the owner of one trinket o have an effect on Israel's store close to the Church of the ourism industry. A leading Holy Sepulchre. Samir Michel, Christian hristian clergyman in Jeru-

guard the near empty streets

manager of the 51-room Patriarchate guesthouse, said: Usually at this time of year we are bursting with guests, but this Easter we are less than half full. The whole new feeling of insecurity is impossible to overcome and people are cancelling all the time. I am afraid it is hard to convince our pilgrims abroad who have seen images on TV that Netanyahu is not a warmonger." He was referring to Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister.

Already one tourist bus has been badly stoned in Bethlehem and yesterday the entrance to the self-rule town

where Jesus was born was once again transformed into a dangerous battleground with hundreds of Palestinian youths attacking Israeli troops guarding the tomb of the biblical matriarch, Rachel.

Some of the rioters were wearing gas masks to counter clouds of teargas and others were using catapults to fire stones at the troops. By night-fall, more than 25 Palestinians had been wounded by rubber bullets fired by the Israelis and the Voice of Palestine radio reported that nearly 100 had been taken to hospital suffering from teargas inhal-

More clashes also took place in Hebron, the disputed West Bank city, with about 200 Palestinians attempting to storm centrally located build-ings occupied by 450 militant Jewish settlers until they were forced back by Palestinian

Senior Palestine Liberation Organisation officials angrily denied claims by the Israeli authorities that they had been responsible for organising the rioting. But yesterday leaders Fatah, the largest PLO faction, announced detailed plans for escalating the con-flict against the Har Homa



A Palestinian wearing a gas mask hurls back a teargas grenade at Israeli soldiers as a sixth consecutive day of riots engulfed the West Bank

trips to Israel and the occupied

settlement. The Futah leadership announced that it is returning to the state of struggle against Israel suspended since the 1993 peace deal, which is now in tatters.

senting 144,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip condemned the plan and called on Mr Netanyahu to take immediate action. The plea came as the

carry their passports at all in Landon: "Travel to the West Bank and Gaza Strip should be confined to essential visits for the time being." Officials added that Britons on vital

times because of the many checkpoints in operation. The Foreign Office added: 'All visitors should note that passengers boarding flights in Israel can be subject to lengthy

personal questioning by security officials." Britons have been advised to keep track of local events and contact the British Consulate in Jerusalem or tour representatives if

Teenagers talk their way out of a family suicide pact

FROM RICHARD CLEROUX IN OTTAWA

THREE teenagers talked ther way out of a suicide pact with their parents who were involved with a death cult.

live members of the Order of the Solar Temple Sect committed suicide after settin their home on fire in St Caimir, a village 50 miles wet of Quebec City. The tegagers had persuaded ther parents that they should belliowed to spend the night in a shed on the property, wille the adults went ahead

the five adults, one Canadiartwo French and two Swiss. we discovered by firemen in the blazing house. The cult by fire, which faunches them on a mystic trip to the star Sirius where they are reborn. The suicide must take place either during the spring or autumn equinox.

The children were to have been included, without their knowledge, in the suicide on Thursday night but the electronic mechanism the adults had set up to fire two propane tanks did not work and was discovered by the teenagers.

Real Ouellet, a Quebec Police spokesman, said: "The youngsters talked to their parents, saying that they did not want to go on this voyage." The family discussed the matter at length, and finally

the parents, Didier Queze and his wife, Chantal Goupillot. both French nationals, allowed their children to stay

The children, boys aged 13 and 16 and a girl of 14, were given drugs which made semi-conscious and were told that when they woke up the following day. their parents, another couple. and their grandmother would all be on the star Sirius.

Firemen found the burned bodies of the parents sitting cross-legged on an upstairs bed next to the bodies of a Swiss couple, Bruno Klaus and Pauline Rioux Police found a fifth body. that of the grandmother. Suzanne Druau, on a couch. She had a plastic bag over her head, leading police to believe that she might have been

The sect received worldwide attention in October, 1994, when 53 members died in a combination of murders and suicides at a ski resort in Quebec and two villages in Switzerland:

Almost a year later 16 cult members including several children, died in a remote French Alpine village.

Police are watching 35 other members of the cult in venting copycat suicides.



The house where five cult members died in a fire

Bush fulfils promise to bale out for fun

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN YUMA, ARIZONA

HALF a century after he baled out of a Second World War torpedo-bomber. George Bush, the former President. fulfilled a promise to himself by strapping on a parachute and jumping from an aircraft

yesterday - just for fun. With the blessing of his wife, Barbara, Mr Bush, 72, iumped from a civilian plane 2,500ft above the US Army's Yuma Proving Ground. He deployed his orange, yellow and blue parachute at 4.500ft. Two jump masters held a harness attached to his body until

As Mr Bush touched down,

apparently none the worse for his adventure, about half a dozen people rushed to assist him. Emergency medical personnel were standing by on the ground but their services were not required.

Eight other parachutists jumped with the former President, who was fulfilling the promise he made that he would someday skydive just for fun on September 2, 1944. as he baled out of his bullettorn torpedo-bomber over the Pacific Ocean. His two crewmates were killed when

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Papua siege disguised as policeman

FROM NOEL PASCOE IN PORT MORESBY

THE Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, Sir Julius Chan, was smuggled out of parliament yesterday, apparently disguised as a policeman, as more than a thousand protesters and armed rebel soldiers besieged the building.

Chris Haiveta, the Deputy Prime Minister, is believed to have slipped out shortly afterwards and eight other MPs escaped during the night, but trapped inside. Sir Julius was smuggled out shortly after defeating, by 58-39, a motion calling for his resignation.

Major Walter Enuma, the rebel commander, had promised that the siege would be lifted, claiming: We respect the law of the land. The parliament has made its decision and the military will

However, soldiers were still at the gates early today searching cars carrying media and parliamentary employees out of the building. One group of soldiers told the Post-Courier that they would not remove the roadblocks or end their vigil until the Prime Minister resigned. They added that they would not listen to Major Enuma either.

Four prominent opposition MPs went to the front gate to urge the crowd to disperse and go home. They reportedly told them that they would try to



Sir Julius: survived vote demanding resignation

reintroduce the resignation motion in parliament later

Opposition speakers, acknowledging that they could not force Sir Julius to resign, appealed to the Prime Minister and the 97 MPs present during the debate to "listen to the voices of the people" and vote according to their conscience. But they failed to convince the government backbenchers.

The motion against Sir Julius was introduced in parliament by Bill Skate, leader of the Opposition and Governor of Port Moresby, the capital. He told parliament that the nation was divided and its international credibility was in tatters because Sir Julius had called in mercenaries to put down a rebellion in Bou-gainville without consulting the Cabinet.

This is not about politics." he said. "Unless we appoint a caretaker prime minister to oversee the establishment of a commission of inquiry and to lead us into the next election, our country is heading for

Sir Julius ended the debate by commending the two leaders for their Tresponsible debate", adding: "We must never compromise the constitution of this country. There comes a time when big issues arise and you will have to make a decision. I accepted that responsibility and I will not pass on to another person, 1 ccept it absolutely.

Colonel Reg Renagi, the acting Chief of Staff of the Defence Force, last night reassured the public that the army eccepted the decision of parliament.

This signifies that democracy is alive and well in PNG," he said. "The parliamentary process under the constitution has been tested. The integrity of the [defence force] has also been tested and has proven . . . that the force has a duty to

Leader flees | Italy to lead 'Club Med' intervention force in Albania



A fisherman prepares his nets in the Albanian port of Durres while two boats blaze after refugees who failed to start their engines set them on fire

AND CHARLES BREMNER IN BOME

A "CLUB MED" military force preparing to intervene in Albania to protect humantarian aid convoys will be spearheaded by an Italian force of 5,000 men. Italian defence officials said yester day. "It is clear that, because of British and German oppsition, the southern Europe ans will have to go it along one official said.

European Union leader meeting in Rome yesterds. were divided over Albana Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said Es country would not send ay forces. "Europe is unanimos that it is not right to see soldiers on a large-scale 4

Albania," he said. Malcolm Rifkind, the Feeign Secretary, said there we no question of "sending a army" to the Balkan state, be some countries could send i

limited police contingent.

After Bashkim Fino. th Albanian Prime Minister met EU ministers, Lambera Dini, the Italian Foreign Min ister, said he hoped a decision would be made within days on the size of an EU security contingent. "We are prepar ing with other countries 16 give security protection to civilians we are sending with the EU to Albania," he said. We don't intend to ... oper-

Convicted killer 'burnt alive' US in \$2bn | Inkatha men guilty of in bungled Florida execution

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AN ELECTRIC chair execution went badly wrong yesterhead burst into flames after being jolted by the highvoltage power charge from notorious

Pedro Medina, 39, a Cuban émigré who was sentenced to death for the murder of a schoolmaster in 1982, had just uttered his last words — "I am still innocent" — when flames up to a foot long shot from the side of his skull and smoke poured out of his face mask.

As wardens rushed to cut the power, the flames continued to flicker eerily over the dead man's face for ten seconds. Witnesses In the execution chamber viewing booth at Starke prison, near Jacksonville, also described the room filling with a foul-smelling

"It was brutal, terrible, a burning alive, literally," one of them. Michael Minerva. said. Florida's Governor Lawton Chiles asked the state's Cor-

rections Department to make an immediate review of the use of "Old Sparky", the ageing oak electric chair. It is not the first time that the device has malfunctioned. An earlier incident in 1990 led to a temporary halt to electro-

Linda Thurston, head of Amnesty International's campaign to abolish the death penalty, said in New York esterday: "This was a horrifying spectacle and merely demonstrates that we are allowing

the state to murder people? The unpleasantness of the execution will lead to renewed protests from opponents of the death penalty. Ms. Fnorston added: "Any method of execution is hornfying. We have had botched executions by

lethal injection also Larry Spalding of the America Civil Liberties Union. which also opposes capital punishment, said: "There is zero chance of abolishing the death penalty in Florida. The electric chair is used by

only II of the 38 jurisdictions in the US which permit capital punishment. Florida has put 39 convicts to death since 1976. when capital punishment was reintroduced. The state has some 450 people on its death

China deals

Beijing: US Vice-President Al Gore and Li Peng. the Chinese Prime Minister, yesterday presided over the signing two multimillion-dollar deals that diplomats here see as showing that Sino-American relations are back on a much stronger looting (James Pringle writes).

In one deal. Air China, the country's international carrier, agreed to spend more than \$700 million (£433 million) on passenger jets from Boeing. In the other, General Motors agreed a \$1.3 billion joint venture with a Shanghai factory to build medium-sized cars in China.

In both cases, envoys said, the deals had been held up since 1995 because of strains in relations over Taiwan. During that time China pointedly purchased a fleet of European Airbuses.

Christmas massacre

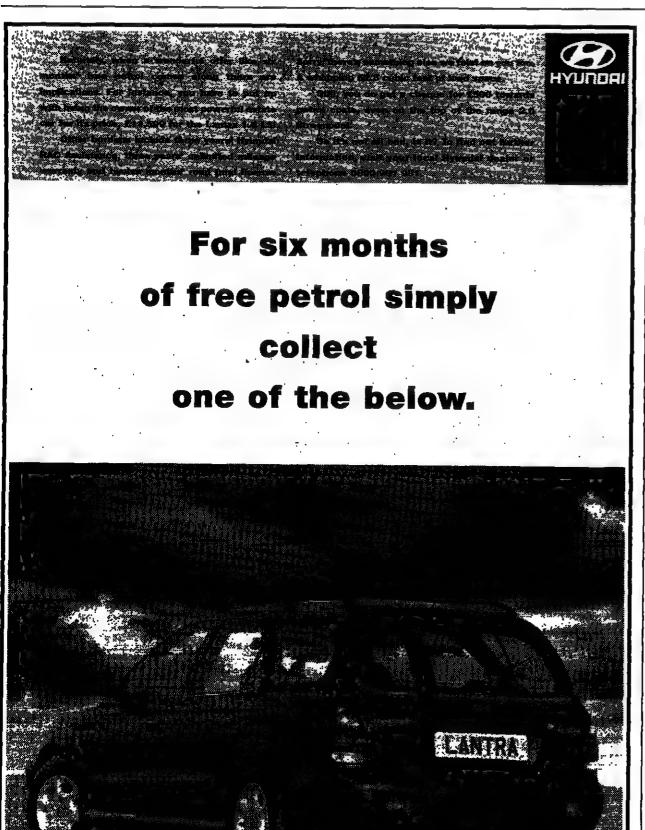
FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

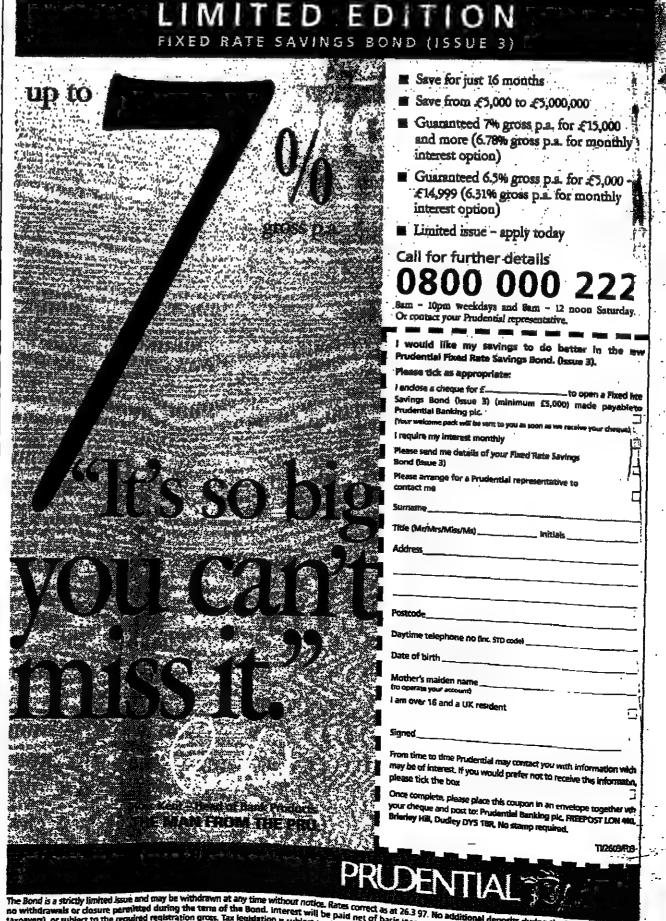
THIRTEEN Inkatha Freedom Party supporters were yesterday convicted on charges of murder and attempted murder in the massacre of 18. African National Congress rivals on Christmas Day, 1995. The judgment could have serious implications for Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's fal-

tering party. Among those convicted in connection with the Shobashobane massacre in KwaZulu/ Natal was Sipho Ngcobo, the local Inkatha leader. In pessing judgment in Durban high court, Judge Hilary Squires said the attack was politically

motivated. The conviction of its supporters is a blow to the Zuludominated Inkatha's mage. The party has sought to cast itself as the victim in the region's conflict where more than 15,000 people have died since the mid-1980s. Since local elections last June an

The judgment could undermine attempts by the pary to revive its political fortune for elections in 1999, inkathains been losing ground steadiy to the ANC in the province. ☐ Killer's plea: Elias Siliya, 26, the self-confessed kills of two British tourists, Elizanth Over and Julie Godwin, resterday begged his vicines families to forgive him forthe 1992 attack. Sibiya said he ad been driven to kill them & a remote beach in Maputoled because of a hatred for white. He said his family had he expelled from their hose when he was five-yearsold and he had since hated when





Mayor counts the cost of home rule for Washington

FROM BROWWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

MARION BARRY, the Mayor of Washington, said yesterday that the battle to win "home rule" for the United States capital 23 years ago had been a Trojan horse and had led to near bankruptcy for the

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Mr Barry, one of the firebrands who mobilised the black community in the 1970s to win the right to manage Washington independently of the federal Government, says that, in retrospect, he would not have struck the deal.

His remarks during a panel discussion on whether Washington can be saved from descent into squalor and crime came as tourists poured into the city for the cherry blossom festival when the banks of the Potomac are lined with flower-

A further sign of the city's decline emerged with the news that its tuberculosis cases increased by 36 per cent last year, although the rest of the US showed declines.

Mr Barry said that the number of potholes in the roads had reached 45,000, nearly one for every 10 residents. He has set up a Pothole Hotline but said that the city lacked any regair funds.

Washingtons problem is that its man industry — government — pays no taxes.

either on property or employ-ment. The cost of servicing its

population, three quarters black, is soaring but revenues are plunging as middle-class residents flee to the suburbs where there is less crime and-

Hope for the District rose in December when President Clinton committed himself to save the capital by forcing the federal Government to take over responsibility for prisons. ports, and some medical care and prisons. But the Bill now faces a tough passage through Congress, as senators and representatives are reluctant to give funds to a region from which they get no votes.

Congress is also critical of Mr Barry's administration. which has been regularly accused of corruption. Andrew



Barry: independence

Brimmer, chairman of the Control Board installed last year to make the city balance its budget, said yesterday that a survey of District managers showed virtually none per-

forming to adequate levels. Carol O'Cleireacain of the Brookings Institution, a specialist in Washington's prob-lems, added that the District was so inefficiently run it could not even collect its 20 different taxes and 115 fees and fines and should scrap many

It emerged yesterday that Mr Barry's ex-wife, Mary Treadwell, who served 15 months in federal prison on a 1983 fraud conviction, and who is currently an employee of his office, has failed to account for \$11,000 in community funds. She has denied mishandling city money.
An angry Mr Barry, who

has been Mayor for most of the District's experiment in home rule, during which he was jailed for possession of "crack" cocaine, said that criticisms of management were a

However, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Washington's nonvoting member of the House of Representatives, said that the problems should be solvable because the city was so small. "New York is a tough city to turn round" she said. "Washington is peanuts."



vessel, including an anchor "We spent a year diving and finally discovered what we. were looking for. The currents have dispersed the shipwreck across a large area," Rony Almeida, an Ecuadorean div-

pany, using electronic-detec-

tion equipment, was the first

to locate parts of the 100 ft

TREASURE hunters have dis-

covered remnants of a long

But a Norwegian company. La Capitana Invest, and two American treasure-hunting companies, Underwater Sal vage and Maritime Explorer, are among the contenders bidding for a licence from the



Five silver coins recovered from the vessel by divers

Ecuadorean Government to salvage the treasure. The licence is expected to be granted to the highest bidder, which ets the right to 50 per cent of the bounty.

The state keeps 50 per cent of the value of the silver coins and gold bars and all relics found," Cristobal Mancayo, chief of marine police, said.

The Capitana Jesús Maria was sailing from Lima, in Peru, towards Panama, lt sank after setting off from a stopover in the Ecuadorean port of Guayaquil. Historians claim the 1,200 tonne ship, chartered by the Spanish Crown, was also carrying emeraids and religious statues

besides gold and silver. Ecuadorean Navy vessels are presently patrolling the area where the wreck is thought to lie. "We want to make sure that none of the treasure goes astray," a naval

spokesman said. The cash-strapped Government has said it would spend the \$2 billion it expected to earn from the treasure on social programmes.

Historians say at least 20 Spanish ships carrying gold from the mines of Potosi, Bolivia, sank off Ecuador. The Capitana Jesús María is the

Ships built to carry New World spoils

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THE Capitana Jesiis María tana Jesiis Maria saw its de la Limpia Concepción was typical of the 17th century ileons used by Spaniards to bring home spoils from their empire in the New World.

Broad of beam, the 100ft vessel would have carried a cargo of about 1,000 tonnes, an 800-strong crew of sailors and soldiers, as well as an assortment of cannons to ward off marauding pirates. Contemporary sources also describe the ship as a vessel of outstanding beauty.

According to Gervasio Artifiano's La Arquitectura Naval Española, the definitive account of ships of the imperial age, published in 1920 — a galleon "had to serve as much for war as for trade" and was better-equipped to stand up to the elements than all other ships of the time.

Yet the broad-beamed galleons were clumsy and slow, often falling prey to the smaller and swifter boats of buccaneers. It was against such most famous action. In Sectember 1629, the ship that now lies on the seabed off Guaya quil led a Spanish assault on the Caribbean island of Nevis, then the bastion of some troublesome Dutch vrijbuiters or "freebooters".

The galleon's captain, Tiburcio Redin, was an impetuous man, and accounts tell of bow he sailed his ship too close to the shore, expos ing its flanks to fire from the pirates' cannons. The galleon had to be rescued by other ships from the Spanish fleet. and Captain Redin was temporarily relieved of his duties.

Patched up after the skirmish at Nevis, the galleon continued to sail between America and Spain, carrying bullion from mines in Potosi to the Spanish Treasury. These cargoes of gold were that rocked Spain in the 17th century, sinking its economy as surely as the galleon her

Yearly cancer checks urged

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

WOMEN in their forties should be screened for breast cancer every year, the American Casteer Society said, in a finding that shapened an increasingly interest debate

panel of experts convened by constel canour.
the National Canon Jastime ... Until now, the society has which gaid the available of a urged mammograms every dence history justify animal; year of two for women be mammograms under the age tween 40 and 50. The change

should decide for themselves, a verdict that was widely

The government-run cancer institute and the privatelyfunded cancer society are by far the most influential Over the issue. Influential The recommendation differs significantly from the Americans about steps they advice offered in binuary by a should take to avoid and groups offering guidelines to Americans about steps they

urged managograms every. tween 40 and 50. The change of 50. of 50 property to recommending an annual Instead bet wild, women test is intended to save lives

and end the confusion, the society said. In Britain, research has

been under way for two years to determine the benefits of screening women between 40 and 50, according to a spokesman at the Department of Health in London. At present, British women

between 50 and 64 are offered a mammogram on the National Health Service every three years. Those under 50 only if a GP thinks it is



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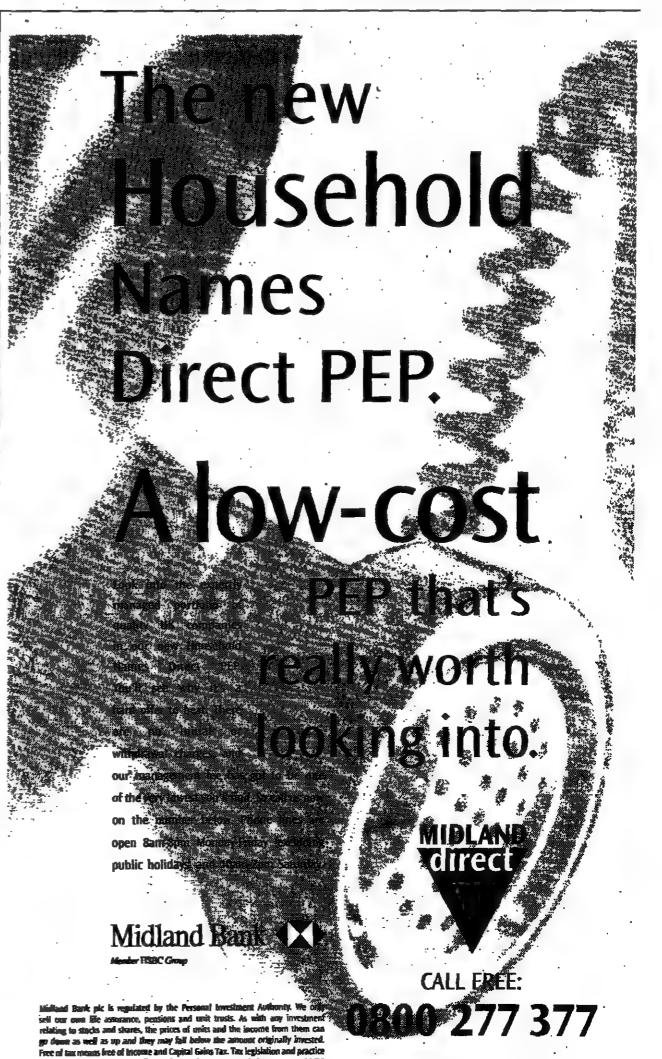
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The suit that loves a drama

JANE SHILLING GETS DRESSED

not feel the

ooking back, I am aston-ished that I didn't own a white suit the first time around. The risky combination of an iron will, an unshakeable confidence in my own faultless taste and a doting and generous mother meant that as a teenager I was able to succumb in some style to most of the grimmer fashion excesses of the early Eighties. I had, in those days, a museum-standard collection of ethnic blouses, a glittery boob tube, a purple tank top, a flamenco-style frock from Wallis, and pair of navy jersey hotpants (very classical. I thought at the time), which I wore under a navy PVC trench coat.

I do remember wanting a white trouser suit quite badly. Whether it was the olive curve of Bianca Jagger's breast be-

neath the creamy jacket in her wedding pictures, or Faye Dunaway, looking elegantly murderous in pristine tailoring, that brought on the desire I cannot now recall. But I never did get one.

This will have been because my mother thought it would Show The Dirt. Open to per-

suasion on most subjects ("No. honestly, it isn't slit unsuitably high, Mummy. Oh don't be ridiculous, of course you can't see what colour they are. Well, what if I sewed it up a little bit?") she was implacable where showing the dirt was concerned.

In later life, the legacy of the maternal firm line on the impracticality of pale colours is clearly visible in my summer wardrobe, which spans the spectrum from dead white to ecru, putty, stone and taupe.

Embarking on the Great Spring Wardrobe Change-over, I am astounded every year by the luxurious monochrome heap that tumbles from its winter resting-place. Gracious me, I annually think. What lovely things. Now why do I never wear any of them? Closer inspection reveals why not the indelible dowish streaks on the front of the cashmere cardigan that I washed and left to dry in the glare of the sun; the abstract squiggle left by an expansive gesture with a felt-tip on the front of a cream silk tunic; the pavement-draggled hem of a pair of cloud-grey satin Oxford bags . . . A riot of sullied purity enough to bring a smile to the lips of the Marquis de Sade. But each new season has found me, undeterred, adding

Until now. To my utter amazement, I find myself unmoved by the pages of white suits in the glossy magazines. I simply do not feel the need for this year's biggest catwalk hit. What is the matter with me? Am I growing old? Is the next step a hairdo like the Queen's and a collection of extra-widefitting shoes in navy leatherette with arch supports?

Examining my conscience, I really don't think so. It is not the trashiness of white suits that I don't fancy. On the contrary, I adore trash and only refrain from coming to work every day in a teeny-weeny Little Miss Trouble Tshirt because I know that my son, who has taken over from his grandfather as my very own sartorial policeman, on

catching sight of it, would infallibly bellow, You're not 'I simply do thinking of going that, I hope.
I think advanc-

need for this years and motherhood must year's have turned me sentimental, bebiggest cause the thing that now strikes me catwalk hit' about white suits is their shocking vul-

nerability. The sight of all that pristine bluewhite acetate at Conran, and crunchy milk-white wool at MaxMara and the tender peach-bloom crèpe de Chine at Austin Reed reminds me of nothing so much as a materniward full of new-born pabies whose skin you hardly dare expose to the harsh touch of the outside air, it is so new

They hang on the shop rails like perfect fruit, but if you look closely, the process of decay has already begun - a grubby fingermark on the lapel; a grimy tide-mark at the cuff; a smear of make-up at the collar. If they look like this in the shop, imagine how they'll

be after half a day's wear. Most high fashion looks can be persuaded to reach some kind of comfortable accomodation with the quotidien - a longer skirt, a flesh-coloured . But in this case, the only possible compromise involves a semi-permanent billet at the dry-cleaners, and being surrounded, when wearing it, by a disagreeable miasma of Scotchguard. White suits don't understand the word compromise. Their natural role is a once-only starring appearance at some human drama with a messy and inevitable outcome: an awards ceremony, a wed-

Whiteheat



Impractical but dazzling. the white trouser suit is a summer must. Grace Bradberry. Style Editor. chooses three of the best



French Connection jacket, £143, and trousers, £70 🖟 John Richmond jacket, £338, and trousers, £163, Selfridges

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Why modelling is such a class act

'Givenchy's

favoured

face

is now

Honor

Fraser'

NOT for a long time has class mattered so much in fashion. When designers choose a for their advertising campaigns, the model's social pedigree, as well as her port-folio, appears to be under consideration. At one end of the spectrum there is Stella

Whistles jacket, £265, and trousers, £135,

Tennant, grand-daughter of the Duchess of Devonshire. At the other there's Jayne Windsor, a single mother of two who was talent-spotted by Select model agency on the streets of New-

What's fascinating is who's matching up with whom. After a year-long love affair with

Stella Tennant, Chanel, whose image is as haute as haute couture gets, has switched tack altogether. The next advertising contract bas gone to Karen Elson, a 19-year-old from Manchester, whose looks are the antithesis of

She has bone-white skin and a face like a porcelain doll - but with a hint of Oriental.

Not everyone in the fashion world finds her brand of suburban jolie laide appealing, but Karl Lagerfeld, Chanel's designer, is clearly convinced. What's more curious is that Alexander McQueen, whose first

Givenchy ready-to-wear line took suburban trash to the limit, should be courting Honor Fraser as his favoured

TOGRAPHER, Keil Gross Stylest Deboten Breit Half 41/5 Dake Lift Chrois Black Stobal

True, they have been friends since McQueen started out, and true. Honor was a protege of McQueen's muse, Isabella Blow, but the sister of Lord Lovat remains the bluest of the blue bloods. She has been foster-

ing a new "street" image, but retains the arrogant walk. The one wild card left in the pack is John Galliano, head of Dior. As yet there is no "face" for the clothes, as opposed to the perfumes. But it can only be a matter of time before Galliano is forced to choose

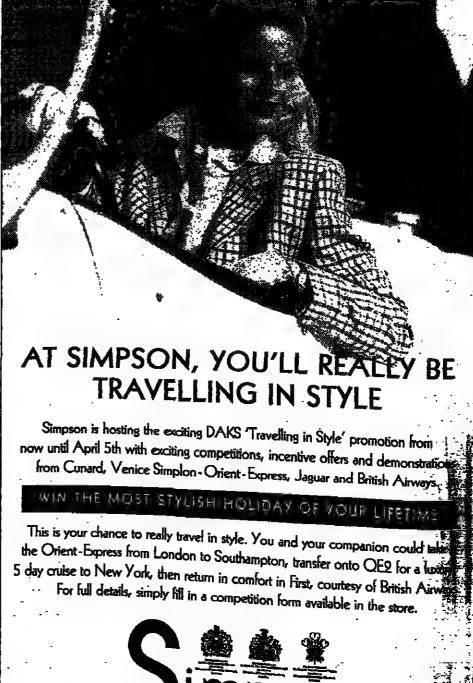
GRACE BRADBERRY

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Lifetime from HealthCare





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'You've Been Famed' Angus Deayton shows us how the stars got started. Interview by Valerie Grove

efore They Were Famous is such an obvious idea for a television show you wonder why it hasn't been done before. Videotapes of household names making their debuts on screen — a sort of "You've Been Famed". an embarras of embarrassment. Naturally the Americans thought of it first. But on Easter Monday Angus Deayton and the BBC will allow us to mock the on-screen

beginnings of the rich and famous.

We shall see a schoolboy Michael Jagger scowling at the presenter of Seeing Sport in 1959, Peter Cook as an extra in the film Bachelor of Hearts, 1957, Clint Eastwood in a "Drink Milk" commercial in 1954: Ben Kingsley in Coronation Street, Steve Martin in the US equivalent of Blind Date. Joanna Lumley modelling cashmere. David Bowie interviewed by Cliff Michelmore—"You've got rather long hair" — in 1964: a prepubescent Naomi Campbell: Jeremy Irons on Play Away: Emma Thompson in a bikini.

Some are not embarrassing at all, they are just rather sweet, like old passport photographs: Stephen Fry wrestling with an answer on University Challenge; and Hugh Laurie as oarsman in the Cambridge crew on Boat Race Day.

"We've only scratched the surface," Deayton says. "As soon as we looked into it, we realised there's a wealth of material to be trawled through. Advertising agencies keep old tapes of people auditioning for commercials, aspiring actors play

extras in sitcoms or characters in soaps."

A rich seam is mined in the footage of TV reporters before they acquired their cool: bikini-clad Sue Lawley interviewing on a beach. Kate Adie prancing in a mob cap. Jeremy Paxman wearing a vintage-1974 smirk and, perhaps most wonderful-ly of all, Anna Ford as a guitar-playing folk singer in 1969 when she was Union president at Manchester University.

Deayton's friend Nick Hancock is the programme's fall guy: it seems he once did ads for beer, wearing a simpering smile which "although I know and love Nick, still makes me want to punch Nick". But Deayton himself can be seen cavorting with a bowl of Crunchy Nut Cornflakes, and there are plenty more of those in his cupboard of skeletons.

Before he was famous, that is how Deayton got by. "Appearing on ads was what everyone did, as a struggling actor or comedian. I spent years and years doing things like that — awful commercials, loads of radio, and scriptwriting for other people - before anyone ever heard of me. I won an award for Most Promising Newcomer on the fourteenth anniversary of my life in showbusiness."

We are in the boardroom of Talkback. Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones's ction company which handles Deayton's PR. (The comedy scene is now so interlinked with PR and production companies you wonder how they work out who gets 10 per cent of whom.) Angus does not have a production company: "It strikes me as too much like hard work -worrying about office rental space, secretaries and AGMs." But we know his newfound wealth has turned him into a big spender: he drives a Lexus coupe, and when he turned 40 last year he invited 100 friends to dine on oysters and lobster in

the Eiffel Tower. He is wearing funereal black, unlike the



Angus Deayton won an award for "Most Promising Newcomer" on the fourteenth anniversary of his life in showbusiness

challenging jackets he wears on screen. and carrying a distressed briefcase borrowed from his girlfriend's mother.

The girlfriend, since the acrimonious split with Stephanie de Sykes, is the American scriptwriter Lise Mayer, whohe met 17 years ago on The Young Ones and with whom he now lives in Islington.

Deayton (like Ralph Fiennes, a name invariably mispronounced by the unwary; it rhymes with Beeton) grew up in Surrey, the indulged third of three sons of an insurance man and a schoolteacher. After Caterham School, he read modern languages at New College, Oxford, where he did no performing until his fellow undergraduate and budding scriptwriter Richard Curtis (Four Weddings. Blackadder) said someone had dropped out, could he come to the Edinburgh Festival? Deayton says he has never been more terrified in his life, but he acquired the taste for comic performance.

When the first series of Have I Got News For You? started in 1990, Deayton was again a last-minute stand-in when John Lloyd decided not to present it. Opportunity knocked for Angus Deayton at 35. He was known to radio comedy aficionados, but his profile was decidedly

low. " I'd always played the parody gameshow host and presenter" — in Radio Active on Radio 4, and as "Mike Channel" the anchorman of KYTV - " so it was odd to do it for real. With an element of pastiche of course." After two series, his deadpan delivery of carefully scripted adlibs (in a manner often described as pedagogic, contrasting with the unruly, anarchic rude boys lan Hislop and Paul Merton) began to achieve for him something quite unexpected: crumpet status.

remember thinking that this must be what attractive women have to stared at in the street. People think. the screen is still there and point a finger in your face and say You're Angus Deayton, or talk about you loudly as if you're not there. Some deal with this better than others: Alexei Sayle isn't at all hothered, but Rowan Atkinson is cripplingly shy. I'm somewhere in between: fighting fit shy. At times I just feel it would be nice to get away to Phuket." Living well is the best revenge: he and Lise flew off yesterday for Easter on the beaches of

Perhaps it is fair that a cavalier

exploiter of others' notoriety should have been bruised by the glare fame. "We never set out to undermine anyone; but the audience decides whether they like someone within five minutes." They loved Jennifer Paterson; they did not love Piers Morgan. "Politicians get the worst ride; but Charles Kennedy said that being seen to do well on HIGNFY was worth ten political broadcasts - people told him later they'd vote for him. We once got hauled over the coals for having too many Labour MPs, so we invited the entire Tory Cabinet but they all declined. Do you think Tony or John would do the show in

the next few weeks?" Next Monday's show will doubtless be the first of many. "It will be clip-led, as we say in the business. When we have enough clips we'll do another one - a hit like It'll be Alright On The Night." The clip I'd like to see is Deayton with Phil Pope and Michael Fenton Stevens, singing Meaningless Songs in Very High Voices, a spoof BeeGees act (the HeeBeeGeeBees) which got them into the Australian hit parade in the early 1980s: but that was before he was famous. Before They Were Famous, BBCI, Easter

A good intention that has gone awry

The muddle over Ms

Mrs or Ms. That's not to say I think it doesn't matter. Obviously how we name people, the way in which we Make too much of that nowadays, though, and you're dead meat. Business and Professional Women UK an organisation no one's ever heard of before - comes out strongly against the would-be universal female title Ms. claiming it smacks of Seventies feminism, all overt aggression, hairy legs and baggy dungarees, and everyone is falling over themselves to say how much they despise the term, have nothing but contempt for it and its coinage and are only too happy to give

Perhaps it was slightly disingenuous to say that I didn't care what people call me. It's true that I don't mind so much how I'm styled, but it does rankle that

I'm asked in the first place. When Ms was introduced to the language of officialese, the idea was wellintentioned: there should be a way of addressing - identifying - women who didn't define or describe themselves in terms of their relationship with men. (Interestingly, the coinage of the term was not political, but economic: it was formulated, apparently, by mail-order companies in 1950s America to cut costs.)

But no sooner was the formula officially adopted in the Seventies, that it was sneered at from a great height. And

who's surprised? I'm not referring to the inevitability of anti-feminism either. Even if you're basically welldisposed, as I am, it's impossible to ignore the sheer idiocy of introducing as a simplifying factor — an unpronouncable appellation. It sounds ridiculous, so it is easy to see why it has been ridiculed.

Nigella Lawson

But underneath the idea makes sense. And I emphasise, the idea was not to suggest that marriage is a bad thing and, that one should therefore avoid having a tag that denoted the married state. Nor was it to imply that by distinguishing between single and married women, one was somehow cruelly drawing attention to the pitiable and lacking status of the former. The message behind Ms. if you like, was this: men are not addressed differently depending on whether they're married or not; nor should women be.

The fuss everyone made! The fuss they continue to make. Anyone would think they were forced to adopt this ungainsayably clumsy mode of address. But no one is. And of course they shouldn't be, but once the term, any term, is not universal, then it cannot make sense. When I'm filling out a form, which obliges me to describe my status, it makes a mockery of having

f I'm being honest, I have to say I "Ms" if it is just an option, rather than don't much care if I'm called Miss, the usual female title. In other words, I am being asked to tick whether I'm single, married or just a bolshy cow. I

go for boishy cow every time. Even if, as the Business and Professional Women UK organisation seems to want, "Miss" is chosen as universal designator of women, it'll make no difference: forms will still say "Miss", "Mrs" or "other". So what's the point? But maybe one can never change things that affect people deeply (and what could affect people more deeply than what they are called?) by such artificial and official means.

But I suspect there has to be some change soon, and one that will come about organically. A great many women, like myself, are not changing their names on marriage. When I give my name for whatever official purpose, I am irritated by being asked "Miss or Mrs?" (I always answer "whichever

you like"), but I am flummoxed, too. After all, the truth is I am what's called my single name, although I prefer to call it, simply, my name. (When I was in hospital after my first baby, my brother came to visit me and arrived eventually at the ward, having had arguments with reception about whether I existed. At last he found me, as he exasperatedly told me, "under your own name".)

All that makes it very difficult, I do see: it's confusing for everyone. I agree it doesn't really matter what's settled upon, Miss or Mrs: I agree

that Ms is out of the question; impossible in ordinary speech, it can be used only ironically. On the whole, and because I wear a wedding ring, I am called Mrs. This is fine by me. although I am aware of the Freudian implications of having a name that makes one sound as if one could be married to one's own father.

Irritated though I am by suggestions that what is wrong with Ms is that it makes us sound like nasty, men-hating feminists, it is true that it hasn't worked. I still hold that it is significant how we are styled, but I accept that it's better to take the Battling Barbara line. While serving on a committee, Dame Barbara Castle was asked whether she preferred to be known as "chairman" or "chairwoman". "I don't care what I'm called," she replied, "as long as I'm in charge"

appears that father-of-the-year Michael Jackson — stung by suggestions that his marriage might be a complete sham - is at some pains to show that it, the baby and his new family life are all completely straight up. It's all, he tells OK! this week, absolutely genuine. To prove it, he claims having a new baby is bliss "24 hours a day" evidence if ever 1 heard it that things might not quite be for real.

Party politics Oscar-style

A FUNNY thing happened in Los Angeles on Monday night: 5,500 film luminaries descended on the Shrine Auditorium to behold three hours of footage. Oscar pre-sentations and awkward thank-you speeches. Then 800 waiters offered them caviar and lobster in a vast banquet hall decorated with Hawaiian

Rothschild orthids at \$15 a

Stars clamour to be seen at the right

flower. But instead of gorg-ing, the Oscar people fled. By 10.15pm the sumptuous venue of the Governor's Ball was a place of also-rans and cleaner-

Why the sudden exodus?

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Contact Your Travel Agent or call

awards bash, says Giles Whittell

Could it have been fear of South-Central LA. where the Oscars were handed out? Probably not. It was, more likely. a vivid illustration of the fact that stars hate being anywhere where everyone's

> The basic rule of Oscar night etiquette is to escape the compulsory Governor's Ball as fast as decently possible, put in "face time" at any studio party to which you may have a professional obligation, then lose your hangerson and make for the parties

that matter. This year that rule spelt chaos. In an horrendous bottleneck of frayed tempers and gridlocked limousines. more contenders than ever before converged on a cruelly short list of acceptable post-post-Oscar parties. There were really only two-

and-a-half places to be seen. Clinging to pole position for the fourth year running, a Beverly Hills brasserie called Morton's provided the locale for Vanity Fair magazine's shamelessly snooty celebra-tion of what it calls America's bi-coastal power elite". From Mel Gibson to ex-presidential spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers, their names were flashed in lights onto the restaurant's walls as they alighted at the

IN SECOND place was the less exclusive but marginally trendier bash thrown by Miramax films at the Mondrian hotel on Sunset Boulevard for the casts and crews of Sling Blade and The English

Patient. That left only one studio party worth pointing your lime at: a Columbia/TriStar



Celebrating: Fargo stars

extravaganza at the Eclipse, whose young chef. Serge Falesitch, had the daunting task of persuading Tom Cruise (Jerry Maguire) and Woody Harrelson (The People vs Larry Flynt) to linger rather than stray across the road to Morton's. Mr Falesitch spared no expense. flying in, among other things, two sushi chefs from Tokyo

and 400 specially harvested Florida crab claws at \$5 each. But Morton's was still the

This year the guest list included billionaires David Geffen and Barry Diller, the Australian Ambassador to Washington (accompanied by Shirley MacLaine, Karl Lagerfeld's muse, Lady Harlech, David Hockney, Valenti-no and all the Oscar nominees, every one of whom RSVP'd "yes".

For the likes of Tom Cruise and Ms Scott Thomas, when to slide out of your "own" party and make for Morton's is a question that redefines the term social conscience. Qualms are for wimps, and ruise showed he has none. He prompted frantic rearrangement of the Eclipse event by inviting, at the last minute, 40 extra friends for dinner. Yet still Cruise deserted them after the briefest of look-ins and headed for the vastly more rarefied schmoozing on offer at Morton's.

The Oscar show always holds the seeds of anti-climax in what follows. Like sheep

caught in headlights, winners are badgered by endless television crews for instant soundbites on their fame and future. Losers are subdued. Everyone else spends too much of the night in the world's most luxurious traffic jam. Even so, be sure that by the time you read this, a stillhungover Hollywood will

that counts, next time.

MEDIA How OK! won the battle for Michael Jackson have begun again the year-long struggle to get on the list Page 23



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Alan Coren



■ Suddenly, all manner of ravening creatures want me to throw them money

hile I may not be able to speak with any authority about the effect of the election announcement on those who do business in great waters, I have to tell you that, in the little pond of Cricklewood, it seems to have generated a quite extraordinary feeding frenzy. Suddenly, all manner of ravening creatures have risen from the murky depths and begun breaking the surface with their snapping jaws. They want me to throw them money. They want me to throw it to them right this minute. If I do not run instantly to the bin in which the stuff is kept and start chucking it at them by the fistful, the creatures will not be able to answer for the consequences, come May 2. For a start, my windows will fall out.

know this, because last Thursday night, even as I was raising the soup spoon to my lip, the phone rang. It was a creature called Colin. Colin wanted me to know that his highly trained operatives would be in my area the next day, desperate to fit my entire house with new windows before it was too late. When I inquired as to what too late meant, Colin explained that too late meant Tony Blair. Colin. he went on, was generously pre-pared to re-glaze my house before the in-flation which would inevitably follow a Lab-our victory sent costs rocketing. When I re-plied that not even John Major had tried to irighten the life out of us with what, if the worst came to the worst, would happen to putty prices, Colin began telling me more about glazing economics than I wished to know, and I returned to my minestrone.

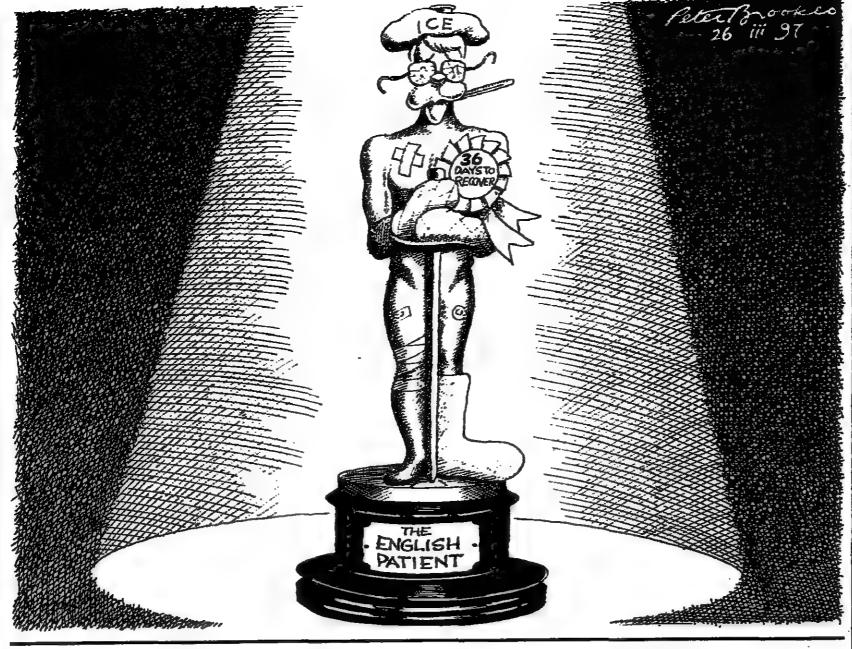
An hour later - I swear this, ask my wife I was about to pour a second cup of coffee when the phone rang again and another creature urged me - not only for my own sake, but for that of my children and my children's children - to invest in the creature's personal equity plan immediately because it was a well-known fact that the first thing New Labour would do would be to abolish

To get rid of him before the coffee chilled, I told him I would think about it, which was a great mistake because, half an hour later (this is now 9.30, by the way), he rang back to ask not only whether I had finished thinking, but also to bang on about moving money offshore, in so conspiratorial a tone as to conjure up a snapshot of the pair of us, faces blacked and oars muffled against new Labour's shore batteries, rowing framically away from Penzance, bound for Grand Cayman on the May 2 tide.

The phone did not ring again that night, but the letter box clattered. There was a leaf-let on the mat; or rather, three leaflets, the deliverer clearly wishing to call it a day, despite the need for all hands to get to the pump before Tony Blair's did. The leaflets had been dispatched by a local firm of landscape gardeners who were pitching their sales into Labour's off-stump; ie, I could deceive Gordon Brown's hidden agenda for sending landscaping bills through the roof by the canny sleight of getting mine done right now.

andscaping? In Cricklewood? A range of hills where the back fence once leaned, sheep grazing the water mead-ow in lieu of my nice shed, a river flowing where we used to have a place to keep the wheelie bins, probably with a hay wain in it? I don't want any of that, it would only attract artists and ramblers and similar riff-raff, and I particularly don't want it for no better reason than to put one over on the incoming administration; any more than I want, as I have been invited to want in this morning's post, a new car at a price the dealer will be "unable to guarantee after May I", for reasons unspecified, although gently hinted at by an ill-cobbled photo of Tony Blair with an L-plate round his neck.

I've been thinking about all this, and the more I think, the less certain I am that it is just the last knockings of an enterprise culture eager to get its two penn'orth in (or, rather, out) before the Götterdämmerung. Might not huckstering of a far more sophisticated order lie behind each cold-call and mailshot, its sole purpose being to make our flesh creep? I cannot yet say, but if I do spot a Reliant Robin out there with flanks that darion "Saatchi Bros, No Job Too Large Or Small, Let Us Quote You", I'll be in touch.



A nation of Lottery Losers

o those with their wits about them, it is evident that we are living through extraordinary times. This is one of the greatest political upheavals in our history. Tony Blair is about to win a victory which, by its sheer scale, will mark an epoch, just as 1945 or 1906 did. In retrospect, though, I suspect that historians will say that the British sleepwalked uncomprehendingly into a new era. We can all see why, after 18 years in office, the Tories might be facing defeat; but why are they facing catastrophe? We need an explanatory framework within which to grasp inchoate but extreme revulsion which the British now feel towards this Government. To do that, one must answer the question: what makes the Major years memorable?

It seems so long ago that Essex Man bestrode the political landscape like a cheeky colossus, even if he was only the old phenomenon of the working-class Tory. Margaret Thatcher had unleashed a momentous transformation of economy and society, and John Major's VICTORY IN 1992 SALUDON endorsement of the voters of Basildon, marked the institutionalisation of Thatcherism. It was a permanent revolution. But it was not what she and her disciples had wanted: a remoralisation of society. Self-interest proved to be

anything but enlightened.

Already by the early 1990s the sense of disappointed expectations was palpable. The trouble was not just that many people had been ruined in the recession. Too many people had tasted the forbidden fruit of speculation on property or shares, had extended their horizons beyond their means, had cultivated habits of consumption they could not sustain. Her Victorian values - virtue would bring its own reward, that selfdenial and self-help were the only path to prosperity - no longer fitted the national mood. To placate Essex Man, John Major broke with one of the lady's Methodist taboos, that on gambling. He offered a modern version of Caesar's bread and circuses: the National Lot-

tery. That was his greatest mistake. It is for the lottery that John Major will be remembered. Had it flopped, it would soon have been forgotten. But the lottery was a great success -- on its own terms. And that meant a nation addicted to gambling, consumed by the tantalising prospect of instant gratification. Most people have fantasised about coming into a fortune. Some do it Daniel Johnson says John Major will be remembered for making gamblers

of us all. That will be his downfall

'It could be

you', said the

ads — but it

never was

incessantly. For them, the lotters was irresistible. It became the darling of the tabloids, for which it generated an endless supply of throwaway celebrities. Half the population eagerly threw itself into the new national pastime: the other half threw its hands up in mock horror. but was appeased by the promise of limitless largesse for the arts and charities. The lottery permeated British consciousness, reaching into every area of life with its new rituals, and promised a great party at the millennium, as a kind of collective lottery prize.

It was predictable that this audacious attempt to bribe the electorate with its own money would backfire. "It could be you", announced the advertisements fellows with a grasp of mathematics. Thatcherism tried to abolish.

such as Professor Tim Congdon, warned us from the start that only a fool would waste his money on the lottery, that the odds were loaded againt the punter - that it was, in short, a statesponsored confidence trick - but they were ignored. Predictably, the British preferred to

blame those in charge rather than themselves. Camelot and its regulator soon became extremely unpopular. The press pandered to public envy of lottery winners, whose morals were no worse than average. Always a tiny minority, they enjoy no respect because — lacking any merit but luck — they deserve none.

More ominously for the Government, there was outrage at the use of lottery proceeds for Covent Garden, the purchase of the Churchill papers and high culture generally. There was no enthusiasm even for the millennium festivities. As hard-earned cash was squandered on the lottery, and there was less for other entertainments or even necessities, the national mood turned ugly. Unsuccessful gamblers blame their own luck for only so long. After a while they blame the croupier. Then they blame the

The British have become a nation of Lottery Losers, filled with resentment against those in authority or who are more fortunate. That mentality has spread through private and public life to an extent that is only now becoming apparent. We cannot kick the habit. But we despise ourselves and those who degraded us. The lottery has created more millionaires since its inception than industry. That has corrupted the work ethic, and with it the basis of that the its profits. Thatcherism. The change was prefigured by the ruin of countless middleclass families on the insurance market at Lloyd's, hitherto a kind of upper-class lottery. But the legitimisation of gambling by the lottery has allowed through

> Those who made a fast buck used to be admired by Essex Man. In recent years they have become the objects of envy, and in many cases are vilified. The fat cats of the privatised industries and well-to-do Tory MPs are the obvious cases. But the psychology of the Lottery Loser - for whom the

link between effort and reward has been broken - influences our reaction to countless other dramatis personae in public life, and that in turn contributes to the cry: "Time for a change." Nick Leeson, for instance, is blamed less than his superiors at Barings, who did not go to prison. Greedy bankers or traders unwilling to forgo their bonuses when the markets do not deliver, or flouncing out when their careers do not go to plan - prompt the Lottery Loser to dismiss the City as a gravy train or a scam.

The feeling that everybody else is making huge amounts of money without an honest day's work has been fed by the cult of celebrity in sport or showbiz. The Lottery Loser is less impressed by their achievements, and the hard work that goes into them, than by their bad behaviour. He resents their success and their ability to offend with impunity. Again: the endless claims for "compen-sation" — whether for physical or psychological injury, bad investments, discrimination, defamation or mere inconvenience - are grist to the mill of the Lottery Loser. Likewise, the creatures of tabloid celebrity, from kiss-and-tell sneaks to the Mandy Albroods. You can make a fortune out of misfortune, the Lottery Loser wryly concludes. None of it is fair - least of all the revenge he will wreak on the Government.

The authority of bosiness, emertaln-ment and the law may have suffered grievously. But the Lonery Loser's houndless cynicism and resentment is chiefly directed at politics and politicians - above all the Tories. And it is here that Tony Blair and new Labour stand to gain. Objectively, the parties have never been closer in ideology or policy. If the electorate prefers one to the other, one might expect that preference to be marginal, as it was in 1964 or 1974. Instead, a landslide is in prospect. Mr Major will be the victim of the lottery mentality he has fostered. The British gamble in living memory.

Mr Blair's talk of morality and community has a subliminal appeal to the Lonery Loser. The addict yearns to be cured; the loser longs to regain his self-respect. New Labour appeals to those who despair of any pattern in success or failure, who see wealth as randomly distributed and want a premium on effort. But the gambler wants to be a winner even more than he dislikes being a loser. The unfairness of which the loser complains - no bonanza, not even a free lunch - is unlikely to change very much under Labour, any more than the lottery itself. The chippiness which is now leading the Lottery Loser to lash out at the Tories may quickly turn him against a Labour government

which dashes his hopes of a jackpot. The Citizen King of France, Louis-Philippe, had a prime minister, the great historian François Guizot, who replied to those who objected to his property franchise (which gave the vote only to the bourgeoisie): "Enrichissez vous!" But the people would not wait to get richer. In 1848 they had a revolution and ejected their conservative premier along with his King. We are no less impatient. Essex Man used not to mind being told to get richer. But the Lottery Loser takes it as a personal insult. On May I the father of the lottery will himself become the biggest loser of all.

Ethelburga. rises from the ashes

Richard Chartres

says the City church

will now be restored

C ! Ethelburga's Church in the City of London survived the Great Fire and the Blitz, but it was blown to pieces by the Bishopsgate bomb on April 24, 1993. The church was one of many victims of violence which sprang from a sectarian and communal divide. This week, a group of Christian partners, stepping over confessional boundaries, have vowed to rebuild St Ethelburga's as a Centre for Reconciliation and Peace. as a Centre for Reconciliation and Pease Yesterday, Cardinal Hume, the Rev

Yesterday, Cardinal Hume, the Rev Janet Sowerbutts, a moderator in the United Reformed Church, and I stood among the ruins of the church, trying to picture how the new centre will relate to the very substantial fragments of St. Ethelburga's that survive. The site is only a tenth of an acre and the restored façade will be dwarfed by the cliffs of the business houses in Bishopsgate. But the small and unthreatening can be a potent small and unthreatening can be a potent force in the work of reconciliation and

peacemaking.

Ethelburga, herself, was the sister of the 20th Bishop of London. St Erconwald, who built the Bishop's Gate (from which the street takes its name) in 665. As an Abbess, Ethelburga was particu-

As an Abbess, Ethelburga was particularly venerated for her heroic conduct during one of the periodic bouts of plague in London.

The church is no stranger to religious strife. One of its rectors in the mid-lith century died a marry's death at Tyburn for refusing to accept Henry VIII's supremacy. More auspiciously, this was the church in which Henry Hudson, the navigator, and his companions made their final communion on English soil in 1607 before setting out to discover the Northwest Passage.

Northwest Passage.

The IRA bomb exploded only 15 yards from St Ethelburga's. The journalist Edward Henty was killed in the attack. and 51 others were injured. Though earlier reports suggested that destruc-tion was total, substantial elements of the medieval chuch were left standing. • survived the blast. The explosion did not cause a fire, so stone mouldings, timber and fittings survived in fragments of varying sizes. The latest archaeological reports reveal that the timber framework of the medieval beliry tower which looked on to Bishopsgate, could be

fter the bombing, sorting of the remains was carried out with the London. English Heritage, and the archaeological services of the Museum of London. Much of the material was provided to proof the City church Ali removed to another City church, Ali Hallows, London Wall.

since to decide what the future for St Ethelburga's should be. The Times and its readers, in particular, have insisted that the continuities of St-Ethelburga's be respected. I believe that the proposal for the Centre for Reconcili-ation and Peace - which will incorpo-... rate the surviving fabric, so far as possible, and most importantly rebuild the façade on Bishopsgate -- does reflect the continuities as well as offering a new future for St Ethelburga's.

The general concept is that there should be enhanced public access to the church, which would continue to be a place for prayer, worship and quiet. reflection. At the same time, the intention is to create a facility providing both a meeting place and office accommodation to create a centre dedicated to work in the field of reconstruction and peace with an emphasis on the spiritual dimension of peacernaking.

The plan is to operate an advocacy and mediation service, as well as offering practical support and counselling for victims of terrorism, conflict and torture. With the City of London; established as a world leader in consultancies of various kinds, St Ethelburga's is appropriately placed to develop a new style of consultancy in mediation. Dis-cussions are already well advanced with the former hostages, John McCarthy and Terry Waite, and with other advisers about the development of the centre's programme. As well as the rebuilt St Ethelburga's, incorporating a small sanctuary, there will be a memorial garden, dedicated to the victims of violence and to the peacemakers. There may be a permanent exhibition on the theme of reconciliation, featuring the lives of those who have suffered from terrorism but are examples of the power of reconciliation.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the rebuilding programme is undertaken in the manner that respects the historical significance of the church while providing it with an imaginative and purposeful future; a place of hope ful pilgrimage". During the gestation, period, the concept has been enriched by many positive suggestions from a crosssection of London citizens.

HILL

Once more detailed plans are available, it may be necessary to launch an appeal later in the year. A previous scheme for the site was costed at £3. million and obviously it would not be responsible to ask for contributions before a more detailed financial picture was available. Early indications, however, of very substantial interest in the proposal encourage me to think that the vision will be realised.

It was very good indeed to meet fellow Christians in Holy Week to make together a small contribution to building that peace of God which is so much more than a mere absence of war and violence. St Ethelburga's destroyed is an example of what can happen if we do no thing. St Ethelburga's restored will be a sign of hope

Betty to bat

THERE will be no space for bad manners or designer stubble among cricketers visiting the Oval this year. Surrey County Cricket Club next month becomes the first county to have a woman as its president, and she is not the sort to put up with loutish behaviour.

At the club's annual general meeting on April 14, the current president, John Paul Getty, will hand over the reins to Betty Surridge, the Betty Boothroyd of the cricket square.



Betty Surridge: game girl

The widow of the former Surrey captain and cricket bat-maker Stuart Surridge, Betty is described by friends as a "game girl who likes a glass of wine and will liven up the buffers of Surrey no end". Henry Blofeld, the radio commentator, described her appointment as tremendous news. "A wonderful lady, although I've no idea about her batting average."

Betty says she does not play cricket, although she spoke highly of the club's most prominent supporter. "I know John and Norma Major very well," she said yesterday. "He loves his cricket and actually supported Surrey when my husband was captain. Stuart

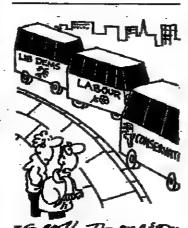
met him several times." One of her first outings will be to a six-a-side tournament involving female cricketers and the Lady Taverners charity. Should John Major no longer be Prime Minister, he could find himself handing out the prizes.

 Those Redgraves certainly know how to deflate the glamour of Hollywood's Oscars night. A few years back Vanessa threw a communist tantrum. This year it was the turn of Lynn, who co-starred in Shine and who celebrated the

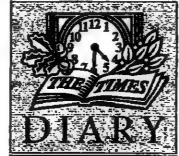
flash-bulb-popping atmosphere in Los Angeles by talking about... her bunions. "I just had a bunionectomy," she said, looking down at her toes. "Came from all those pointy shoes we wore in the

Men only

LORD PORCHESTER, son of the Earl of Carnarvon, has been out soliciting for men. In his role as tub-thumper in chief for the National Playing Fields Association, "Porchie" is on the prowl for bachclors to auction themselves at his



"You wait ages for one battle



Bid for Bachelors" evening later this year. So far, the line-up looks familiar: the unfirmed bachelor Christopher Biggins, the wifeletcollecting Marquess of Bath and that old slut Peter Stringfellow. As Porchester points out to prospective bachelors "you don't even need to be a 'bachelor' in the strict sense of the term."

Right pair

FIRST in line for French designer Jean Paul Gaultier's venture into haute couture are Joan Collins and her daughter, Tara Newley. At dinner in Daphne's in Chelsea on Friday night it was decided that they would both wear JPG frocks when Miss Newley marries in Paris this June. They insist that their decision bears no comparison with the Duchess of York's rather sinister habit of dressing up

her daughters in mini versions of

Joan Collins, more commonly associated with big hair and shoulder pads than Gaultier's trademark conical bras, will wear a brightly coloured, extremely tight-fitting, offthe shoulder number. Miss Newley may fade away beside her, in a rather more demure oyster-coloured frock with scalloped shoulders and long gloves.

Original sin LABOUR'S education spokesman,

David Blunkett, let slip the origin of Tony Blair's soundbite about "education, education, education". "We got the education slogan

from a poll that North Yorkshire Training and Enterprise Council engaged in last year," Blunkett told the Association of Teachers and Lecturers. They found that 43 per cent thought sex was the most en-joyable thing. The remaining 57 per cent put education."

Manor born

THERE is consolation for Mike Leigh, the logubrious film director thwarted in all five of his Oscar nominations for Secrets and Lies. Earlier this week, I reported that stiffies had been dispatched by Brockett Hall, unviting all the ba-



bies who were born there during the war, when it housed an evacuated East End maternity home, to a tea party on April 12 Leigh's mother read the piece and contacted Brockett Hall to secure an invitation for her son, who was born in the ballroom there in 1943.

Speaking from her home in Sal-ford, Phyllis Leigh, a former midwife, remembers her son as being a "healthy, rumbustious baby". She recalls: "He last visited when his then wife, Alison Steadman, was playing Mrs Bennett in Pride and Prejudice, which filmed there last year. I think he'll want to go back to see all those old faces."

The author is the Bishop of London.



CHEER UP, MR BROWN

Tory reforms have made Britain safe for faster growth

If there is one issue on which the Tories and Labour ought to agree on it is the good performance of the British economy. Of course, things could always be better: economic growth could be a little higher, unemployment could be still lower, the quality of available jobs could be better and inflation could be somewhat below the Government's 2.5 per cent target instead of a smidgeon above. On balance, however, the British economy has enjoyed a strong and well balanced recovery since John Major abandoned the foolish economic policy which all the main political parties fervently supported in the last election - the commitment to keep sterling in the ERM.

Surprisingly, it could be in the interests of the Labour Party, as well as the Tories, to emphasise this economic success. For the Conservatives, the need to gain credit for good economic performance is obvious. Less obviously, but more importantly, it is also in Labour's interests to talk the economy up, instead of down.

There are three reasons for this, none of them understood by the ever-lugubrious Gordon Brown. First, there are the worries of voters who have turned against the Tories for non-economic reasons but will become increasingly anxious about their personal prosperity under Labour once the election campaign intensifies. The more confident these people feel about the durability of the economic recovery, the less nervous they may become about giving Labour a chance. Secondly, Mr Brown should realise that his party's ability to achieve its ambitions in office will depend entirely on the strength of the economy. If Mr Brown really believes that the economic recovery "could be shortlived" and "is not built on solid foundations", as he said again yesterday, then Labour cannot be believed in any of its promises to improve health and education without raising the burden of tax.

This leads to the third and most important reason why Mr Brown must be made to understand that the present economic perpansion really is fundamentally sound. If Mr Brown ever becomes Chancellor he will have a critical responsibility for maintaining the pace of the recovery by managing economic demand. As our Economics Editor explains on page 31, it is now widely accepted by economists of most theoretical persuasions - including the pragmatic former monetarists running the US Federal Reserve Board and the International Monetary Fund - that governments and central banks must take responsibility for the proper management of economic demand.

Ironically, the main reason for the resurgence of confidence in managing demand to maintain full employment has been the trade-union reform, labour-market deregulation and privatisation of the Thatcher and Reagan periods. These have made economies more efficient and far less prone to inflation. In a sense, the right-wing reforms have made the world safe again for a cautious version of the traditionally leftwing policies of full employment, albeit with a crucial difference. The emphasis today is on the use of interest rates to manage demand. Few would advocate the oldfashioned Keynesian remedy of swelling government borrowing to create jobs.

Unfortunately, Mr Brown does not seem to understand any of this. On the contrary, he argues that the 18 years of Tory policy have undermined Britain's ability to sustain non-inflationary growth. He promises to increase Britain's long-term growth rate by improving training or encouraging investment; but these measures, even if they proved successful, would have no perceptible effects on Britain's productive capacity for many years to come. Until then Mr Brown, if he were sincere in his pessimism about Britain's incapacity to grow without creating inflation, he would have to take steps to depress demand by raising taxes or interest rates. Far from creating jobs, the Treasury and Bank of England acting on Mr Brown's gloomy precepts, would be duty bound to try to prevent unemployment from falling or even to push it up. If only the Tories could convey this message to the public, they might yet turn macroeconomic

CZARS AND THEIR EMPIRES

American experience cautions against an anti-drugs supremo

There are many important social issues that receive too little emphasis in elections dominated by economics. Tony Blair's evident interest in attacking drug abuse is an honourable exception. The solution that Mr Blair outlined yesterday - the appointto lead the "war on drugs" may not, though,

prove the best institutent for his intentions. Not for the first time Mr Blair has looked to the United States for both ideas and language. His model, in its formal title, is the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, which was established there in 1989 as a post of Cabinet-level ranking. The Labour leader claimed that this figure had become a "substantial success" that would be a "valuable added weapon" were it copied in this country.

There are relatively few in Washington who would offer such a blanket endorsement. At best, their czar has enjoyed a mixed record and at werst, many would contend, has been a damaging distraction. The number of Americans regularly using drugs, which had halved in the preceding decade, has risen since its introduction. Those undertaking government treatment programmes fell despite a more than 300 per cent increase in expenditure. That shift. especially among the young, became an electoral embarrassment to President Clinton. He felt obliged last year to select a fourstar General as his latest supremo.

The reasons for this relative failure are more than relevant to Britain. In the United States successive Presidents thought that a new office, an impressive title, and some additional resources would in themselves constitute a strategy. The existence of a czar became a delegation of responsibility. For Labour ministers, already burdened with an ambitious agenda, there would evolve, almost inevitably, a similar temptation.

management into a potent electoral issue.

In Washington, like Whitehall, the administration of drugs policy has long been split between several departments. In theory, the czar, as chief co-ordinator, was created specifically to rectify this division. In bureaucratic practice, it has become one more agency and without the institutional power of its competitors. That danger would be even more acute here as Mr Blair would like an appointed expert, not in the Cabinet but of similar status, to take charge over elected politicians.

Labour would be well advised to note that a czar is not a strategy. Mr Blair is certainly right to argue that the fragmentation of control between the Home Office and the Departments of Health and Education does not advance the overall operation. That fracture reflects a political reluctance to decide conclusively whether drug abuse is mostly a law and order question with a public health source or mainly a public health matter with a law and order outcome. A choice between the two approaches would eliminate much of the superficial need for a

It would also help to acknowledge the limits of central action. This problem endures because of the demand for drugs which ensures supply - not because of the detailed organisation of departments. The causes of this craving are best addressed through a diverse range of well-linanced specific initiatives. It is extremely improbable that there exists a single State-directed solution. Mr Blair's best hope may well rest not on a national czar but an extensive network of local commissioners.

THEY THE JURY

Conscientious objection should not be an excuse

citizenhood. We all have to pay tax, of course, and attend school until we are 16, but other than that, little is required of us by law. en voting, though seen by many as a civic duty that has to be exercised, is not compulsory. With the passing of conscription and National Service, jury service remains one of the few acts of citizenship that society calls upon individuals to undertake.

It is a serious business. To pass judgment on their peers may be, for many jurors, the most power that they ever exercise over another person's life. For that reason, the decision of Judge Anura Cooray to send two women jurors to prison on Monday for refusing even to consider a verdict was at first sight draconian. But for the same

reason, it was entirely understandable. Bonnie Schot and Carol Barclay, who were released yesterday on appeal, were genuinely shocked by the judge's treatment. So will be many who have read about their plight. But their "crime" was more than expressing confusion about the case. Having sat through 17 days of evidence and four hours of summing up in a case with five defendants, they announced in a note to the judge that they would not even take part in discussions with other jurors about the

There are few duties that accompany British verdict. Miss Barclay said that she could not return a verdict on anyone at any time. Miss Schot, the jury foreman, said that she could not make up her mind.

The solution for Miss Schot is clear: if she could not decide, then she should have returned a "not guilty" verdict on the ground that the case had not been proved beyond reasonable doubt. It is not open to Miss Barclay, however, to object on principle to passing judgment on defendants. When jurors are sworn in, they promise to reach a verdict on the evidence. The result of her refusal to do so is that the trial had to be adjourned and a new one ordered at an estimated additional cost to the taxpayer of £150,000.

Jury service should not be treated lightly. These women's actions suggest a cavalier approach to the administration of justice. They could have asked for clarification if they were confused, or they could have opted for a "not guilty" verdict if they were not persuaded. But to refuse to reach any verdict is to cock a snook at the very essence of the criminal justice system. Their appeal judges may rightly decide that one night in prison is enough to apprise them, and others, of the seriousness of their actions. But, however harsh the sentence may have seemed, it had to be passed.

TERS TO THE EDITOR

Pennington Street, Landon El 9XN - Telephone 0171-782 5000

Sleaze allegations and moral aspects of electioneering

From the Chairman of the Virgin Group of Companies

Sir, Two weeks ago I returned from Greece. In a question and answer session there I was asked to cite the main differences I found in doing business in England compared to Greece. I argued that you could trust British poli-ticians, the judiciary, the police, the customs, planning officers, etc., never to accept each for services whereas in some European countries this seemed not to be the case. I pointed out the obvious - if those at the top play this game why shouldn't the rest of society

When I returned home - to my embarrassment - it seemed that some British politicians may have behaved not a lot better.

Even at this late stage surely the constituencies in question should change their candidates for the next election - there are many young, keen and forthright people who would like to go into politics and serve their

Kind regards, RICHARD BRANSON, Chairman, Virgin Group of Companies, 11 Holland Park, W11. March 24.

From Mr Andrew Chadwick

Sir, We would seem to be about to get a new definition of Buggins's turn: "When a political party is so long in the wilderness that the electorate, having forgotten all their comparative qualities, votes them into power in defiance of both common sense and any certainty that they will do any better than the incumbents."

Yours faithfully, ANDREW CHADWICK, Principal. Chadwick International la Birkenhead Street, WCl. March 20.

Gays in the Army

From the Minister of State

Sir, Your headline today, "Army rule

change to end ban on gays", gives a

wholly incorrect impression. The

Army has been reviewing its guide-

lines on conduct and discipline, but

the review has not included any fur-

ther consideration of the Govern-

In common with the other Services,

the Army believes that homosexuality.

whether male or female, is not com-

patible with the needs of military life

tions in which soldiers have to live

live and work in close proximity with

each other, often under great stress and for long periods. We believe that

these conditions, together with the

need for absolute trust and confidence

between all ranks, necessitate the ex-

clusion of those of homosexual orien-

This is not a moral judgment - it is

because we cannot risk undermining

the combat effectiveness of our troops

and their ability to meet the defence

This policy has been reviewed and

supported by Parliament, most re-

cently when considering the Armed

Forces Bill last year. The Armed

Forces Bill select committee looked at

this subject in detail, took evidence

from a large number of witnesses re-

flecting a wide range of opinion, and

concluded that there should be no

change to the current policy. We have

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, NICHOLAS SOAMES,

Main Building, Whitehall, SWI.

Gorbachev's legacy

From Professor Archie Brown, FBA

Sir, The cliché "Gorbymania" often

becomes a substitute for reasoned ar-

gument. Brian Crozier (letter, March

22) fails to acknowledge that while

Gorbachev retained a misplaced es-teem for Lenin, he gradually came to

reject the fundamental tenets of Lenin-

ism. Gorbachev's 1987 book, Peres-

troika, which Crozier cites, broke

some new ground, but it was from

1988 that Gorbachev realised that the

Soviet system needed to be fun-

damentally transformed, rather than

Oleg Gordievsky (letters, March 12,

22) apparently fails to realise that the

Soviet Union had ceased to be a com-

munist system in any meaningful

sense by the end of the 1980s. It is not

because Gorbachev was a "commun-

ist autocrat" that he is greatly respect-

ed by many people in the West - in-

cluding the leading politicians who

had dealings with him - but because

he dismantled the communist system.

against Gorbachev to absurd lengths

when he suggests he forged the

mind-set" which produced in post-Soviet Russia "the infamous blood-

bath in Chechnia". The war in Af-

ghanistan began under Brezhnev and

was ended by Gorbachev. The war in

Chechnia began under Yeltsin and

was ended by Alexander Lehed.

St Antony's College, Oxford.

Yours faithfully,

(Sub-Warden).

March 23.

ARCHIE BROWN

Gordievsky carries his vendetta

merely reformed.

tation or behaviour.

needs of the country.

no plans to change it.

Ministry of Defence,

March 24.

Service personnel can be required to

ment's policy on homosexuality.

for the Armed Forces

and work.

. From the Reverend Edward Thompson

Sir, Parents are sometimes aware that their offspring are their true riches. Likewise, "the true riches of a nation are vigorous and happy men and women, willingly and intelligently cooperating for the good of the com-

One could wish that as politicisms approach the forthcoming election they would take note of the economic, sucial and educational implications of this helpful statement, which comes from a report presented to the Houses of Convocation of Canterbury in April

EDWARD THOMPSON, 3 Woodsyre, Sydenham Hill, SR26.

From Mr Dennis Barnard

Sir, It would seem likely that we shall see a change of government after May l. May we ask, or expect, that the in-coming administration will, quite soon after taking office, announce the date from which it will be prepared to accept responsibility, as the govern-ment in office, for any failure of its polcies. May we also ask, or expect, that the outgoing administration will con-cede a future date from which any success of the incoming administration, will cease to be the result of their policies while in government.
Should these dates coincide?

Yours faithfully, D. F. BARNARD, Del Rivo, Burtons Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire.

March 20.

From Mr David Watt Sir. In opposition the new Labour Party has clearly demonstrated the skill with which it has refined its tech-

niques of procuring and purveying

leaked information (report, March 20). It has raised the practice - or lowered it, depending on one's point of

view - to an art form. If Labour should form the next administration I doubt whether the Tories in opposition will have either the apritude or appende to match this performance.

In the interests of open government, to which Labour so evidently attaches importance, and the free flow of information to both the media and the public. I hope that Mr Blair puts the per-son responsible into the Cabinet. where he can continue his distinguished work and be answerable to the Commons, and take questions in the LYEW SELECT

Yours sincerely, DAVID WATT, 40 Brookfield 5 Highgate West Hill. No.

From Mr Steven Respetniak Sir, Floating voters are spoilt for choice in north London. A few streets away from my home, a revolving billboard carries election posters placed by both the Labour Party and the Conservatives, together with a car advertisement. The message changes every ten seconds or so.

Yours faithfully STEVEN RESZETNIAK, 12 Shrooshire Road, N22.

From Mr R. J. Abbott

Sir, If the outcome of the election depends on 80 marginal seats (report and map, March 18), why not have election broadcasts solely in those areas and leave the rest of us in peace?

Yours faithfully RICHARD ABBOTT. 20 Oak Road. Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Retirement of Baroness Chalker

From Mr M. J. C. Tweedie

Sir, Your report (March 21) that Baroness Chalker has decided to retire as Minister for Overseas Development after the election includes compliments of the highest order by the Prime Minister.

in these times when political sleaze attracts so much media attention, here is a politician of undoubted integrity whom we all can admire. I hope there will be more like her amongst the new intake of Members of Parliament

Yours faithfully. CHARLES TWEEDIE. Lower Upton, Little Hereford, Ludlow, Shropshire. March 21.

From Mr David Adair

Sir, When Linda Chalker was rejected by her electorate in 1992, the Prime Minister responded by arranging her elevation to the peerage so that she could return to her previous ministerial post.

Evidently, it has been a very satisfactory arrangement; how many other middle-echelon ministers, have remained in the same office for the full five years of this Parliament? For Lady Chalker it has provided a wellremmerated ante-chamber to full retirement from political life; for the Prime Minister it has guaranteed good behaviour in a potentially troublesome backwater of his admin-

This is a fine example of the proper working of prime ministerial patronage, part of the code of parliamentary behaviour on which we pride our

country and which is now said to have been violated so shockingly by some errant Tory backbenchers.

DAVID ADAIR, 19 Swanston Field, Whitchurch on Thames, Reading, Berkshire.

From Mr Barry Lennox

Sir, Zimbabwe public service pensioners in this country will not be sorry to see the departure of Baroness Chalker as Minister for Overseas Deve-lopment. She has constantly opposed any efforts to help them following the virtual disappearance of their pensions as a result of the plummeting Zimbabwe dollar, now worth less than a tenth of its value at indepen-

This is in spite of an assurance given in 1979 by an earlier Minister of State at the Foreign Office that the Zimbabwe Independence Constitu-tion contained "full safeguards" for public service pensions.

Her attitude is in stark contrast to the help her Government has given Maxwell pensioners and those allegedly mis-sold personal pensions, especially as in neither of those cases was directly involved in arrangements. Her Majesty's Government was a signatory to the Zimbabwe Constitution.

Yours faithfully. B. J. LENNOX (President, Rhodesia Public Services Association, 1977-80), 11 Boyne Rise,

King's Worthy, Winchester. March 21.

Tunes sinister

From Dr Andrew Cockburn

Sir, Your leading article, "Putting left to rights", and report about a piano for the left-handed (March 10) has prompted Mr Gareth Glyn's suggestion (letter, March 14) that a violin for the right-handed should be a greater

In fact, left-handed planists are quite well catered for: the repertoire of left-hand works may be small but it is distinctive. Ravel's concerto for left hand is well known, while Faure's ambidexterity is amply demonstrated in his compositions. The virtuoso pianist, Leopold God-

owsky, held that the left hand, far from being relegated to "dull, repeti-tive work", is in many ways superior to the right. Freer of tension, it is more

supple and relaxed. Commanding the middle and lower registers, it can produce a more sonorous and less percussive tone - with the damper pedal freeing it to play in the upper regis-

Godowsky greatly increased the range of the left-hand repertoire with, for example, a paraphrase of Strauss's Gypsy Baron waltz, and 22 studies based on Chopin's Etudes. Those interested in a "Chopin revolution", as your leader put it, might care to try his study based on Chopin's Op 10, No 12 - the Revolutionary Study - for the

Yours faithfully, ANDREW COCKBURN (Co-founder, London Piano Circle). 30 Southway. Hampstead Garden Suburb, NWII. .. March 14.

Trouble in Oporto

From Mr Richard Kurt

Sir, Rob Hughes's report (March 21; see also report, March 20, later editions) on Manchester United fans' trouble in Oporto quotes a member of the British Embassy staff in Lisbon as saying there would be 10,000 visiting fans, of whom only 6,400 had tickets. thus in my view providing support to the Portuguese police's contention that ticketless fans and forgeries were at the root of the violence.

The embassy official quoted was mistaken, as the figures only relate to tickets supplied via Manchester United's box office. Independent travel firms also supplied ticket/travel packages, with bona fide tickets provided by FC Porto. I was in Portugal

for four days and only met one person who did not have such a ticket in his possession. This mistake was compounded by what I regard as unjust criticism of "so-called supporters ... without legitimate tickets" later in the

The pre-match crosh, which your reporter admits he did not see, had nothing to do with ticketless fans or forgeries. I should know, for I was in the midst of it. The only issues there. were crowd "control" and police brutality. I hope the report promised by Oporto's police chief next week will be rigorously analysed

Yours sincerely. RICHARD KURT, c/o Macmillan Publishing, 7 Albany Street, Edinburgh. March 21.

Museum policy on 'looted' treasures

From Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, FBA, Master of Jesus College, Cambridge

Sir, Mr Christopher Cavey (letter, March 19) is astounded that I, as a truspee of the British Museum, should be critical of those collectors who, by their unquestioning purchase of unprovenanced antiquities, effectively finance "the cycle of destruction of archaeological sites" (report, March

The terrible looting which continues in Cambodia, Alghanistan and Mali as well as in such traditional fields for Illicit excavation as Greece and Cyprus, Italy, Turkey and Mexico, per-suaded many of the great museums of the world several years ago that more stringent acquisition policies were ap-propriate and that they should seek to fallow the Unesco Convention of 1970.

Innocent collectors should know that the British Museum, in common with a growing number of museums nationally or internationally, will no longer purchase unprovenanced antiquities (unless accompanied by secure documentation of ownership prior to 1970). Unprovenanced antiq-uities are no longer acceptable even as gifts or bequests.

The priority today is to end the continuing destruction of the world's historic heritage, and responsible collectors as well as the world's great museums have a responsibility which they

Yours sincerely, ... COLIN RENFREW, The Master's Lodge, Jesus College, Cambridge.

Church advertising

From the Chairman of the Church of England Communications Committee

Sir, The Church of England is often at its most imaginative and effective when it operates on a local level. That is what the Birmingham and Lichfield dioceses will be doing through their Christian commercial on Central Television in the run-up to Easter (report, March 21).

The problem arises when, mistakenly or wilfully, such initiatives are perceived by others to have the full backing of the Church of England and to be part of a presumed overarching

No such policy exists: nor should it. Each diocesan bishop is responsible under God, and within the minimal constraints of the unique Anglican

diocese. However, it would clearly benefit the Church if the people involved in this important and creative field of Christian advertising were to have even closer links with each other; and with those who, sometimes unexpectedly, have to comment on what they

This might have the further benefit of providing a forum for deeper examination of the content and purpose of such advertising.

The Birmingham and Lichfield offering comes across as prayerful and thoughtful. By contrast, attempts from other stables have sometimes seemed to reduce the great mystery of the incarnate God to utter banality.

Yours sincerely, TNIGEL WAKEFIELD, Bishop's Lodge, Woodthorpe Lane, Wakefield, West Yorkshire. March 22.

Egg on face From the Archdeacon of Swindon

Sir. On this Palm Sunday the children in Junior Church were asked why next Sunday was the most important in the Church's year. Without hesitation came the answer: "Channel 5 starts." Good news perhaps for some

but sadly we still await conversion. Yours faithfully, M. J. MIDDLETON, 2 Louviers Way, Swindon, Wiltshire. March 24.

More egg on face

From the Registrar of Culford School Sir. Richard Lloyd writes setter, March 24) of his concern about the transport of players from Suffolk to Rosslyn Park as we, at Culford, have cause for concern about the transmission of information from the schools. seven-a-side tournament. Your correspondent was told that some members of the Culford team were lost in "Hampstead". Alas, this appeared in his report as Hampshire.

However, confusion about London landmarks is not uncommon among school pupils. This was certainly evident in the observation of the girl, far from here, who maintained that Salome was a wicked woman who took off all her clothes in front of

Yours faithfully, JOHN HUMPHRIES, Culford School, Culford, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk March 24.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

50 on mections



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 25: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

Lady Abel Smith has succeeded

the Lady Elton as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 25: The Prince Edward, Trustee. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, and Chairman, International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association. this morning left Bombay on the conclusion of the visit to India. Lieutenant-Colonel Sean

O'Dwyer was in attendance. ST JAMES'S PALACE March 25: The Prince of Wales march & the rinte to water today visited Barry and was re-ceived by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards,

His Royal Highness, President, Business in the Community, this morning visited Holm View Lei-

Royal engagements

The Duke of York, as parron, will visit the exhibition of projects for the

Young Electronic Designer awards at the Science Museum at 9.00am and present the annual awards at 7.45.

State Opening

of Parliament

Parliament will be opened by The Queen at 11.30 am on Wednesday. May i-1, 1997.

Peers who will be present at the

Peers who will be present at the ceremony may apply for a place in the Chamber for their peeress or husband, and for their eldest son or daughter above 14 years of age.

A limited number of seats in the Royal Gallery will be available for guests of Members of both Houses of Parliament. Members of the House of Commons about apply for these seats to the Speaker's Secretary, House of Commons, London SWIA OAA.

Applications from peers using the forms issued to those eligible should

be sent to the Secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain, House of Lords, London SWIA OPW, by Friday, April

YORK HOUSE

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the replica of HM Bark Endeavour (the ship in which Captain Cook sailed to Australia and New Zealand 1768-1771) in the Pool of London at 3.00. Technology Lord Butterworth, Chairman of

the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. The Earl of Selborne, Sir Robin Nicholson, FRS, and Mr Richard E Escritt were the speakers. present the annual awards at 7.45. The Duke of Kent, Patron, will attend a lecture at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies, Whitehall, SWI, at 12.15: and as Vice-Chairman. British Overseas Trade Board will attend a Britain Means Business in Cape Town briefing at the Department of Trade and Industry, at 4.30. The Chartered Institute

sure Centre, Skomer Road

Gibbonsdown, attended a meeting

with those connected with busi-

nesses involved in study support

initiatives in Wales and met young

people.
The Prince of Wales, Patron, the

Abbeyfield Society, later visited the Abbeyfield Residential Home and

His Royal Highness, President.

The Prince's Trust and Business in

the Community, this afternoon attended a seminar on opportu-

nities for young people in Barry at the Docks Office and met local

supporters of both organisations.
The Prince of Wales, President,

The Prince's Trust, afterwards

visited the Amelia Trust, Five Mile

Road, Walterston, Llancarfan, and

March 25: The Duchess of Kent,

President, this morning opened the NCH Action for Children's War-

ren Park Project, Kingston Hill, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

met statf and local young people.

met residents and staff.

Lord Mustill, President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, and Mr Geoffrey Beresford Hartwell, Chairman and Senior Vice President, were the hosts at the Annual Dinner of The Charthe Annual Dinner of The Char-tered Institute of Arbitrators held at Drapers' Hall on Tuesday. March 25. The guests included: Lord Justice Saville, Judge Esyr Lewis, Presidents and Chief Executives of Professional Bodies and Trade Associations and Mr. John 6. Bridgeman, Director General of Fair Trading.

Lecture

Wellington Society
Dr Michael Baxendine delivered a Dr Wichael Sachathe between to the Wellington Society yesterday at the Wellington Hospital. Dr Arthur Levin, chairman of the society, presided.

Appointment

Mr Rodney Hunter Gordon Corner has been appointed HM Coroner for Milton Keynes with effect from April 1, 1997.

Birthdays today

Graham Barlow, cricketer, 47; Mr biophysicist, 86; the Earl of conductor, 72; Lard Chetwode, 60; Miss Kyung-Wha Chung, violin-ist, 49; Mr Piers Gardner, director, British Institute of International and Comparative Law, 43: Lord Graham of Edmonton, 72: Mr William Hague, Secretary of State for Wales, 36; Her Honour Jean Graham Hall, 80; Baroness Hayman, 48; Lord Hooson, QC, 72; Sir Peter Horsley, chairman, Osprey Aviation, 76; Miss Elizabeth Jane Howard, novelist, 74; the Right Rev Bill Ind. Bishop-designate of Truro, 57; Sir George

Mr David Amess, MP, 45: Mr ish Telecom, 76: Sir Bernard Katz. McGench, 83: Sir Leslie Melville. economist, 95; Mr Leonard Nimoy. actor and producer, 66; Mr G.T. Pryce, former chief executive. Dalgety, 63.

Mr Harry Rabinowitz, conductor and composer, 81; Miss Diana Ross, singer, 53; Professor Stuart Sutherland, Professor Emeritus, Experimental Psychology, Sussex University, 70, Vice-Admiral Sir Jonathan Tod, 58; Mr Amédée Turner, QC, and former MEP, 68; Mr Colin Webb, former general

ATWOOD - Judith Mary aged 57, died peacefully in her sleep on 23rd March 1997. Beloved mother of Rebecca, Jessica and Ryland May time lessen the pain. Funcant to be held at St Faul's Church, Rosthall, on 4th April 1997 at 3 pm. Arrangements by Richmott, Tunbridge Walla.

SERVICES - Alle Locker spec

As passed away pencerally in 2nd lamb, before of Alfred James (Jim ex professional golfer Genards Cross Golf Cinh). Funant Service will take place on Tuasday 1st April at 2 pm at Spratton Church, Northamptonshire, followed by burial.

Church bombed by IRA to become centre for peace

Bishop's £3m plan for ruined building

By DANIEL McGrory

STANDING amid the ruins of St Ethelburga's church yesterday the Bishop of London unveiled plans to end a four-year wrangle in the City over what to do with the medieval church destroyed by the IRA.

The Right Rev Richard Chartres says that he has ecumenical support and sub-stantial offers of money to restore the distinctive façade of the church in Bishopsgate and to convert the site into a centre for reconciliation and

This place has been the subject of controversy and was itself a victim of violence and so I hope that everybody can agree this would be a fitting and proper use for a church with such historic

The bishop envisages the centre comprising a small church, a memorial garden to those killed in the two City bombs, and offices which will be used by staff offering practical support and counsel-ling to the victims of terrorism and conflict.

Former hostages Terry Waite and John McCarthy joined church leaders in the rubble of St Ethelburga's yesterday to publicise the plan which they hope will receive planning consent and the necessary financial backing to begin the reconstruction work.

The bishop said: "I am heartened by the early sup-port and the offers of cash which may mean we do not even have to launch a public appeal to raise the £3 million I think will be needed. I will be very disappointed indeed if we do not have St Ethelburga's resurrected well before the millennium."

The Corporation of London has already told the bishop that it approves the plan which also has the active support of English Heritage and other interested groups.

Memorial service

A service of thanksgiving to cele-brate the life of Major-General Edwin Frederick (Ned) Foxton.

Director of Army Education, 1965-

Church of St Mary and All Saints

Beaconsfield. The Rev Alison Cow officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan

Stockbridge, who gave an address.
Brigadier A.D. Thompson,
Director Educational and Train-

ing Services (Army), read from Memoirs of Childhood and Youth

by Albert Schweitzer. Major-Gen-

eral J.S. Lee, President of the RAEC Association, paid tribute. Members of the family, the Vice-

Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and many other for-

mer colleagues and friends were among those present.

Major-General E. F. Foxton



John McCarthy and Terry Waite, the former hostages, at St Etheiburga's yesterday when plans for the future of the wrecked church were announced

The idea of a glass-fronted design that left exposed parts of the church damaged by the IRA bomb in April 1993 was rejected by City planners last

year as "inappropriate". Traditionalists have won the argument for the Grade 1 listed building to be restored with its medieval street frontage, roof and 18th-century

church saying: "This plan is a marvellously appropriate and imaginative idea and it has my wholehearted support."

Nothing has been done to the site since the IRA blast except to salvage a few architectural treasures and cover the shell with corrugated roofing, plastic sheeting and scaffolding.

bell turret.

Cardinal Basil Hume
joined yesterday's visit to the

Scattoning.

As he picked his way through the rubble John Me-

to be asked to suggest ways in which this centre could work. I was fortunate to receive very good care when I returned from Beirut and I hope St Ethelburga's may help others."

Terry Waite said: "There is tremendous symbolism in this building, that from the destruction and out of suffering comes new hope."

The bishop writes, page 18

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Konrad von Gesner. physician, Zurich. 1516; William Wollaston, philosopher, Coton, near Stafford, 1659; Sir Benjamin Thompson, Count von Rumford. physicist and co-founder of the Royal Institution of Great Britain. Woburn, Massachusetts, 1753: George Smith, assyriologist, London, 1840; David Affred Thomas, lst Viscount Rhondda, statesman and financier. Ysgyborwen, Glamorganshire, 1856; A.E. Housman, poet and scholar, Fockbury, Worcestershire, 1859; Robert Frost, poet, San Francisco, 1874; Sir Gerald du Maurier, actor-manager, London, 1874; Wilhelm Backhaus, pianist.

Leipzig, 1884; Tennessee Williams.

DEATHS: Sir Thomas Elyot, dip-1546; John Winthrop. Puritan and lst Governor of Massachusetts. Boston, 1649: Sir John Vanbrugh dramatist and architect, London. 1726; James Hutton, geologist, Edinburgh, 1797; Ludwig van

dramatist, Columbus, Mississippi.

Beethoven, composer, Vienna, 1827; Thomas Hancock, pioneer of the rubber industry, Stoke Newington, 1865: Walt Whitman, poet, Camden, New Jersey, 1892: Cecil Rhodes, Prime Minister of Cape Colony 1890-96, Muisenberg. South Africa, 1902; Sarah Bernhardt, actress, Paris, 1923; David Lloyd George, 1st Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, Prime Minister 19:6-22, Ty Newydd, 1945: 19:6-22. Ty Newydd, 1945: Raymond Chandler, novelist, La Jolia, California, 1989; Sir Noel poser. St Mary, Jamaica, 1973. The Sabi Game Reserve, the world's first officially designated game reserve, opened in South Africa 1978

The first cremation in England took place, Woking, 1886. Driving tests were introduced

President Jimmy Carner of the United States witnessed the signing of a peace treaty by Israell Prime Minister Menachim Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, 1979.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.A. Collins and Miss F.A. Benton Jones The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Sir John and Lady Collins, of Beaulieu, Hampshire, and Fleur, younger daughter of Sir Sumon Benton Jones, Bt. and Lady Benton Jones. of Irnham, Lincolnshire.

Mr S.I. McIntyre and Min I.A.C. Salter

The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr James McIntyre, of Mudgee, Australia, and of Mrs Fiona McBryde, of Yair Bridge, Sontland, and Joanna, younger daughter of the late Dr Adrian Salter and of Lady Berriman, of Wateringbury, Kent. Mr N.P. Femmer

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Fenner, of Houghton. West Sussex, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Miles Halford, of Hampstead, London. Mr R.W. McNau Scott

I Miss M.R. Norris The engagement is announced between Robert, eidest son of Mr and Mrs Nigel McNair Scott, and Maurette, only daughter of the late Mr John Norris and of Mrs Walter Berryman. Mr R.A.J. Marsh

and Miss A.S.A. Barrett The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs David Marsh. of Winson, Gaugestershire, and Alexia, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Barrett, of Corston, Wiltshire. Mr M.L. Murmi and Miss J.A. Nix

The engagement is announced between Matthew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Ken Moran, of Bekeshourne, Kent, and Jenutier, daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Nix. of Sydney, Australia.

Mr J. Parkinson and Miss L.A. Skiemer The engagement is announced between Jack, only son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Parkinson, of Tadlow, Cambridgeshire, and Laura, daughter of Commander and Mrs Brian Skinner, of

and Mile S.M. Pelesser The engagement is appropried ... between Christopher, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Rorischild, of Whiteleaf, Bledlow Ridge. Buckinghamshire. and Sarah, only daughter of M and Mme Gerard Pelcener, of Antony,

near Paris. Mr G. Scannell and Miss L Rowland Jones The engagement is across between Gareth, san of Mr and Mrs S. Scannell, of Caerphilly. Wales, and Lucy, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. E. Rowland-Jones, of Terbury, Gloucestershirt:

Mr M.R. Williams Ellis and Miss I.B. Kvale

The engagement is announced hetween Mark, youngest son of Mr Roger Williams-Ellis, of North Wales, and Mrs John Horne, of lersey, and Ingrid. youngest daughter of Reverend and Mrs Daglinn Kvale, of Norway and California.

Marriages

Mr J.S.M. Beckwith-Smith and Miss C.A. Alers Hankey The marriage trok place of Saturday, March 22, at St Luke's Church, Chelsea, of Mr. John Sydney Merton Beckwith-Smith and Miss Catherine Alice Alers Hankey. The Rev Christopher Kevill-Davies officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father. Mr Andrew Alers-Hankey, was attended by Poppy, Richard and George Cotterell, Georgina Allen-Steven, Bethany Arnold and Joseph Agnew, Mr Magnus Arnander was best man.

A reception was held at The Reform Club and the honeymoon is being spent in Bognor. Mr D.C.F. Hoysted

and Mrs CJ. House The marriage took place in London on Tuesday, March 25, between Christopher Hoysted and Cardine Houre, of Warwick Square, London, SWL

School news

Queen Margaret's School. York

Queen Margaret's School: York announces the award of the following Scholarships for September 1997:

Academic

11 - Entrance: Annabel Bowring
(Lames Alien's Prep School,
Dulwich, Perelope Ess (The Abey
School, Beaching)

13 -: Polly Less (The Minster School,
York) major award: Amanda
(Campbell (Barnard Castle School),
Amanda Wathins (Repost Prep),
Sixth Form: Lisa Mecidelle (QMS),
Nicola Law (QMS),

Royal Grammer School,

Guildferd The following awards Emponnoci:

Ambiguica Scholarships

King's Scholarships John A.C.
Keeping (Lanesborough), Michael
D.E. Nierien (Lanesborough), Peter
M. Tilman (Cranmore), Scholarships, Alet D. Bird (S) Peter S. Simon
A. Bird (Cranmore), Jornahan P.R. de
Quide (Lanesborough), Thomas L.
Gadd (Lyndhurs), Nima J. Ghadri
Cranmore), Rupert A. Harris
Rawenscote), John W.V. Holmes
(Krigley Court), Lames D. Lawrence
(Lyndhurst), Philip N. Pile (Aldro),
Alexander P. Reddihough (Ripley
Court), Rehard D. Smith (Clewborough House), Jonathan P.
Sturgeon (Haslemere Prep), Ahran A.
Symonds-Balg (Scotforth St Paul),
Jeretny R. Wilkinson (Hoe Bridge);
Honorary Scholarships: Calum
M.M. Dailel (Danes Hill), Craig P.
Halley (St Neot's), William J.
Hollowell (Cranleigh Prep), Nicholas

Roone (Ropey Court):

Made Scholarsings
Simon A. Bird (Crimmore): Jonathan
G.E.C. Jower I Aldroy. Matthew R.A.

Romon (Lanesbornugh): Gregory M.

Schepos Rupers (RGS): Hears R.E.

Skroch (Newland House): Michael

W. Story (Tateley Manor): John C

Wright (Queen Eleanors):

The Birmingham Society ...

The following have been elected to the Faculty of Fellows: Mrs Annette Chub: Mr Fred Daiby: Colonel Geoffrey Jones: Mr Joseph Jordan: Lady Knowles; Mr Colin Lucas: the Rev Les Milner: Mr John Parsons: Mrs Violet Stanier, Mrs Theresa Thomas, Mr Harold Thompson: Dr Chris Up-Mr Terence Westwood has sta-

ceeded Mr George May as Chairman of the Board of Governors of

Elections

Royal College of Anaesthetists Professor L. Strunin has been elected President and Dr S.M. Willatts and Dr W.R. MacRae Vice-Presidents of the Royal College of Anaesthetists from June 18, 1997.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

But as for me, Lord, I cry to you, my punyer comes before you in the morning. Pasim 88: 13 BIRTHS

ALLCOTT - Beautiful baby James, been Saturday 22nd March 1997 at 12.28 pm, weighing 8ths 4.5cs. MKH - Meghan Holly 70se 4oz on 21st March, A beautiful beby (aughter for my beautiful wife Tracey, Always worrs, your band

and loving Daddy Chris.

DESET - See Cartie:
CARTIER - On 26th February
1997 at Cast, Nottinghain,
to Carolin Rollington,
Carter, two sons, Robert
Enigh Artist and Jain James
Minney,
CAVIERBUIL - On March 17th,
to Inne (noe Bredin) and to Jane (née Bredin) and Stuart, a son, Rory William.

Hickmott, Tunknings Wells,
BEH - Eule Margarst Enrily,
aged 93; much loved wife or
Sharman and mother of
Mary, Andrew and Nicholes,
Died on 22nd March 1997,
peacefully in her sleep at
Hempton Field Nursing
Home, Cadanoc. Funeral at St
Helen's Albury, near
Thiddington, Ozon at 3 pm on
Wednesday, 2nd April.
Family flowers only. Any
donations please to Lloyds
Bank, Thanne, Ozon OLY 2RN
attn. Peter Balking, payable
to Lloyds Bank, to be shared
between St Helen's Church
Albury, St Mary's Church
Thame, and Thame
Community Hospital.

at Queen Charlotte's, to Angela and Lloyd, a designar, Ruby Florence, a sister for Europe. Manney - On March 19th at The Fortland Hospital, to Victoria and Edward, a daughter, Alice lanthe, a sister for Brilliana and

HEALY - On March 19th, to Emma and Tim, a gorgeous gurgling girl, Molly Alice Tamma. A fire processed for John and Jennifer. at The Portland Hospital, to

at Queen Charlotte's Hospitat, to Tracy (née Mitchell) and Hugo, a daughter, Sim Lily, a sister

LUMBER - On March 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Schally - On March 15th, in Brighton, to Scarlett (nee Hutchinson) and J.C., a ahter Lucinda Scarlett.

componer, include Scatter.

EVE - On March 18th, at The
New York Hospital, to Mana(née Fricker) and
Christopher, a daughter,
Victoire Comstance, a sister
for Charlotte.

house at Sevenously in his house at Sevenously on Manch. 24th in her 99th year, Uarda Mary (see Gary Domidd. The widow of Brigastier Predatels: Bewahur and devoted mother at the Royers. Cremation private. Unon will be a small itemartial Services into es. Bansardi Sarvice Site &
Bansard peacefully at
home on Morch 22rd 1777.
Desply loved wife of Fielip
Resident deviced sites of
Ethiasen and bottler in the
Michael, loving aunt of
Susan, Inness, Samh, John,
Gregory and Lauren,
Cremation service Thousany
3rd Andi S pe Resident and
Family flowers only.
Dougstoms if desired to Sam
Beare Unit cop F.W. Chirty &
Go. 24 New Zealand Avenue,
Walton-on-Thanses.

DEATHS

BRADDOCK - John Cyril, formerly of Ravy Works MPAW, and D of E, died peccerally on Benday 23rd March aged 81. Beloved husband of Ethnheth, much loved father of Nick daughter-in-law Masgaret and grandson James. Committee Fidey 4th April in the North Chapel, Fortchester Genestochum at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only, donations to the Leukaumin Research Fund c/o Barrells Funeral Directons, Lawsmood, 245 Fretton Road, Portsmouth.

CARFRAE - Michael James
Fesgus, inte Royal Artillery,
on March 22nd, suddenly
whilst gardening, Dearly
loved heaband of Maureen,
father of Bryony, Caroline
and Martin and gamdfather
of eight. He will be sadly
missed. Private cremation
followed by a Sarvice of
Thanksgiving at St. Andrew's
Parish Church, Farnham,
2.30 pm Wednesday 2nd
April. Donations if wished to
The British End Chors direct.

CASTELL.

CASTELL - On Sunday March
23rd, very peacefully at
Beathmount Liss, her home
for the last tan years, Music
Castall, aged 88, formenly of
Midhurst. Funeral at
Guildford Crematorium,
Tuesday April 1st at
11.90am. All enquiries to
Feteratical Foreral Services,
est (01730) 262711.

DE HASE - Mrs Many, of St Johns Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempsteed, passed away at The Hospice of St Francis, Berkhamsted, on Monday The Hospics of St Princis, Berkhnusted, on Monday 24th March aged 78 years. Funeral Service will take place at West Herts Crematorium, Garston on Priday 4th April, at 12.15pm. Howers or enquiries to J. Worley (Puneral Directors), 48 Lawn Lane, Hemel Hempstond, tel: (01442)

Hempstend, tel: (01442) 253465. FASCHFELD - On March 23rd 1997, (tragically) in Val-d'Isére, France, Franz beloved son of George and Eve and lauther of Stephen and Andrea, May he rest in peace. Fuheral tomorrow (Thursday) in Dublin, Enquiries to Patrick Massey Funeral Directors, Dublin Phone 353/1/453 3333.

GAIS - Stephen Edwin, dessly beloved son of Claire and brother of Julian, unexpectedly in Onea. Funeral April 3rd at 12 noon in Christchusch, Hampstend, All friends very welcome. No flowers please.

HOPKINS - On March 23rd, tongically, Citvin Resembly. So special to Summ, Peter, Isabel, John and Debornh. Enquiries to Feter Taylor Funeral Services, Holt, Norfolk, teli (01263)
711992. Hence March 1 Common March 1

REATLEY - On 21st March 1997, at the White House, Steeple Morden, Helen Hankin Thompson (Pancy), in her 96th year. Very dearly loved Mother, Gundmother and Great-Grandmother. Private family funeral.

MATHER - Pencatally on 20th March in her 90th year at Hemenham Place Nursing Home, May Alexandra (Middy). Widow of Charles, denty loved mother of Jaset and Gill and quandmother of Anna, Sophis, Buffy, Emily and Charles. Funeral pulvate. Service of Themisgiving at 31 Edwards School Chapel on a date to be amounced. Grateful thanks to all at Remember for their devoted and professional case.

committed by the state of the s

siter a short lineau Much loved mother of Wendy. Christine, lanet and Donald. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren ton numeroes to mention by name. "Politically incorrect and fun to the end!" Funeral lizes on 2nd April at St. Andrews, Cohham, Samey. Flowers mandatory - c/o lames & Thouses, Mill Street, Cohham, to arrive before james & Thomas, Mill Stree Çobham, to arrive befor

BOLINARE photographer, on 21s March 1997, peacefully in a London hospital Funezal on Longon hospital. Fineral on Thursday 27th Harch, 4.15pm at West London Crematorium. Flowers, or donations to Woold Funce Fund of JE. Kenyon, 88 Haverstook Hill, London 3887 280.

SERVICES

SHEILS-REDDIK - Durch Thomas Shells-Reddin 21st August 1930 - 24th March 1997. Beloved father, grandfather and stepson. Died pencefully at home in Spain. "We'll miss your music in our lives". Funenal has already taken pisce. Desertions in Desert's miss or CHIECA (Spanish Cancer Charity). Edif. Gardian. Describes to the CODECA (Spenish Cana-the CODECA (Spenish Cana-Charity), Edif Gavilan Fuebla Lucia, 2964/ Junia, Malaga, Spain.

SELVESTER - Durothy on 22nd March aged 95, died at her home. Whitev of Yal, much loved aunt am great-runt, she will be swily missed by them and the lieu family. Private committee, Sarvice of Common cration we cheeded y final 2nd at St. Mary Magdalane, New Millers at 230. Semily Morest only. Dunations if dusived to the Western Orchestral Services on Decodery of March 18 Services. elo Hoodys Punenal Service 59 Old Milton Road, No Milton, Hants BH25 60 J. w (01425) 612261

CMPLIE - Peggie in Salisbury on 24th March, 1997, Much loved widow of Field Marshal Sir Gazald Templer and nother of Jane and Miles, Peneral Service family only, Memorial Service later. No flowers. Donations if desired to Companywealth

Havemmarker of Assamouth, Bristol, died peucefully Manch 20th 1997. Pomeni Service on Wednesday April 2nd at St Mary, Leigh Woods at 12.30 pm, followed by dremation at Canford at 1.30 pm.

THANKSGIVING ELBY - A Service of Thunksgiving for the life of salph Walford Selby Esq. Clet, will be held at The Geards Chapal, Wallington harracks, on Thunday 24th april 1997 at 2 pm. Thou wishing to attend shoul apply for tickers and a ci pass if required to the against and adjustent Grandier Guardi Wellington Barracki Birdcage Walk, Londo: SWIZ 6HQ by 9th April 1997. Tickets will be issue

RESTIER - John Dudley, A Service of Hambugiving for the life of John Dudley Webser is to be held at the Cauch of St Mary-Le-Sow, Chespaide, Loudon EOI, on Monday 21st April at 1230pm.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

MARRIAGES CALLAMAY-HICREON - On March 14th 1997 in London between Mr Stephen John Callaway and Mn Hanel Ann Hickson.

WEATLEY-CAME - On 26th Warch 1947 at Chelsen Registry Office, Edgar Christian (MIII) to Maney WANTED

ANNIVERSARIES

TICKETS FOR SALE FOR SALE E TIMES - 1791-1996 other trities available. Rendy for pre-sentation - also " Sendays" Termember When. 0181-688 6323 or Call Pers 0500 520000 Thuntre, Bought & Bald. (394 8283 Yez 394 8272 M.I. AVAIL: Phonecon, all theater M.Jackson, 73:cancon, Wimble Son all sport 0171 480 618:

0171 839 8363 OVERSEAS TRAVEL ALL TICKETS available P ALL TRUNKTS 5 Mercions, Phil Col-lins, C. Dione, all resper pop-spect & theatre.0171 925 0065 to deam referred, Seychelles in April, 7 days fishing setter ishming, lave on board, beat pri-vately characted by two amplets, UK & UKA, need two more to there costs. Tal: Les Sempson BM 01702 202211 VE. 01708 890909 AMY TICKET obtained, Theatre 9171 488 4414 (Chy).

ATE OFFICE. Cate chalate in France, Austria, Switz & Canada Ski Total 0181 948 6922 Abta

Depart may that White Ros 0171 792 1188 AJOL 3562,

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Saturday 29th the deadline is Friday 28th at 12.38pm.

Monday 31st the deadline is Saturday 29th at 12 noon.

Tuenty 1st April the deadline is Manday 12.30pm.

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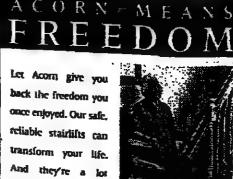
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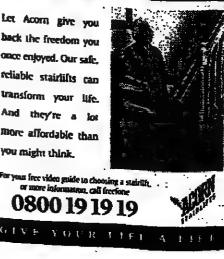
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OBITUARIES

SIR JAMES HIGHGATE

Sir James Highgate, lawyer, governor of the High School of Glasgow, 1981-90, president of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association. 1987-89, died on March 16 aged 76. He was born on June 18, 1920.

immy Highpate was a Scottish Tory of the old-fashioned kind who served the party without thought of personal reward or advancement. War service apart, he lived in the same house all his days, worshipped in the same church and prac-tised law in the same parmership in its various mutations. But, above all, he will be remembered for his passionate devotion to the High School of Glasgow, and the part he played in saving it from extinction.

in Die

2.27

Harder C. House

111

Sugar Total

te Birming

T. Care

James Brown Highgate was born into a Scotland where Unionism, rather than Conservatism, provided the banner under which the political Right rallied, and his life exemplified the close links between the party and the Church of Scotland. The decline of the first after 1955, when it achieved a majority of the popular vote, shows a remarkable correlation with the latter's loss of membership since that time, but Highgate gave both institutions outstanding service until his

Highgate attended the High School, descended from the medieval grammar school, from 1931 to 1938. He completed his MA at Glasgow University in 1940 but, without waiting to graduate, joined the Royal Artillery as a gumner. He was rapidly promoted to the rank of screeant — for each extra stripe he would send his sister Elizabeth five shillings

John Harris, Professor of

Economic History at

Birmingham University.

1970-90, died on March 5

aged 73. He was born on May 14, 1923.

BY HIS research, writing and

teaching over almost 50 years.

and by his many-faceted ap-

proach to his subject. John

Raymond Harris left his

highly individual stamp upon

the study of industrial history.

The unusual non-textile base

of St Helens, the town in

MINWEST LAIDCHANNIE WHEN

he had grown up, first aroused his curiosity. With a school-

friend (from the age of five), Theo Barker, he decided to

inquire into how coal, copper.

chemicals and glass had given

rise to the growth, from the

later 18th century, of a pre-

dominantly working class

population nearing 100,000 by

While still in the sixth form

of the local grammar school.

and served in London and the South East.

The last 18 months of the war saw him with the Royal Indian 7th Rajput Regiment: he spent 18 months in India and attained the rank of major. Afterwards he returned to university to add an LLB to his MA, and entered the Glasgow legal firm of Brownlie, Watson and Beckett, becoming a partner in 1951 and senior partner in 1975. Ten years later, upon retirement, he became a consultant to the successor partnership of Miller, Beckett and Jackson, and continued to attend the office a couple of days a week until his death.

He suffered a heart attack while walking to the church to which he had devoted much of his life. He was an elder of Park Church, Uddingston, for 49 years and preses (chairman) of its board of management from 1960 until last year when, at a dinner in his honour, tribute was paid to a man who, for all his distinction, was universally known as "Oor Jimmie". The phrase celebrated his warmth, generosity, his lack of pomposity or side and his modesty.

Over the years he gave tens of thousands of pounds to the High School and other causes - he served on the regional board of the Salvation Army from 1970. His service to his old school, however, went far beyond financial support.

He was one of a group of former pupils, led by N. S. Thornson. A. L. Aitkenhead and Norman (now Lord) Macfarlane, which rallied to its cause when the Labourcontrolled Glasgow Corporation threatened to sweep it away. The proposal was that the High School for Girls should become a comprehensive and that the boys' school

the two of them decided to

write a book about the town

and gave some preliminary thought to it while starting

their first degrees, in Harris's case at Manchester. They

went their separate ways dur-

ing the war, but returned to

the project as part of their graduate work, both now at Manchester, after 1950. Their

book, A Merseyside Town in

the Industrial Revolution: St

Helens 1750-1900, appeared in

1954. It was reprinted in 1959

and again in 1993, by which

professors.

HE DOM OF MELL MELS LEMES

During the war Harris

served with the Royal Corps of

Signals, was posted to the

Indian Army (then short of signallers), and subsequently

saw serious fighting with the

23rd Indian division in Indo-

Back home again, he completed his first degree in 1948 and took a teacher's diploma

before proceeding to a doctor-



should be closed altogether. When legal and other routes failed, the former pupils resorted to direct action. They rapidly raised £600,000. They arranged a merger with a private junior school at Drewsteignton, Bearsden, and combined its assets with those of the High School former pupils' club. When the old school closed in 1976, its successor was born on the same day and its new seniorschool building was opened on the club's playing fields at Anniesland, beyond the city

al thesis on the copper indus-

try, very important in the early

growth of St Helens, where

ore from Angelsey was

shipped around the coast,

down the Mersey and up the

Sankey Canal to be smelted.

He raid particular attention to

the remarkable entrepreneur

involved, Thomas Williams of

boundaries, the following year. It now has a roll of more than 1,000.

Highgate had to retire as a governor, by rule, at the age of 0, but he continued to serve on the charitable trust administering the High School's bursaries and development funds. Out of its senior roll of 638, about 50 pupils benefit from these scholarships, with another 50 on the state assisted places scheme. His political career was in

the same mould of disinterested service. He contested the

Llanidan, whose life he subse-

quently published as The Con-

per King, a book which well illustrates his rigorous yet

By then he had joined the

staff of Liverpool University

and was clambering slowly

and productively up the lad-

der of promotion there, in the

course of which he had the

idea of starting Business Hist-

ozy, a journal which survived

a precarious infancy and still

flourishes. He himself flour-

ished, too. From a being a

able to move on, in 1970, to

occupy the Chair of Economic

History at Birmingham previ-

ously held by W. H. B Court.

a strong advocate of industrial

archaeology, as a means of

coming to grips with the practical problems of technol-

ogy and at the same time of

attracting the support of the many "amateurs" with a spe-

cial knowledge of their area or

Harris had already become

at Liverbo

readable style.

PROFESSOR JOHN HARRIS

thorough inquest ensued: the parliamentary seat of Bothwell at three general elections
— 1964, 1966 and 1970 — and, although he was beaten each time, he had the satisfaction of holding the Labour majority steady at a time of general Tory decline in Scotland. He

> He was appointed CBE in 1981 and was knighted in 1994. His private passions were golf

He remained a bachelor and is survived by his sister

time for all good men to come to the aid of the party had truly arrived. Highgate, who had been joint honorary secretary of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association from 1973 to 1986, now became its president, serving for two

and travel.

Elizabeth.

proud of his Lancashire roots.

He was easygoing, but could

he ruthless when necessary.

as when, after becoming its

keeping in touch with friends.

going regularly to the univer-

sity and reflecting upon his studies over the three decades

for his final book, Industrial

Espionage and the Transfer of

Technology: Britain and France in the 18th Century.

He was gratified to have

completed reading the fin-

ished proofs just before his

Despite the wide range of

this last international study.

his most profound and endur-

ing single work was his article published in History in 1976

and republished in his Essays,

entitled Skill, Coal and Brit-

final illness struck him.

ALEXANDER SALKIND

Alexander Salkind, film produces, died in Neuilly. France, on March 8 aged 75. He was born on June 2, 1921

1 1 00 12 D

ALEXANDER SALKIND WAS probably the only independent film producer capable of financing a blockbuster on the scale of Superman. When the film was released in 1978 it had, by conservative estimates, cost £100 million to make, a sum that even the larger Hollywood studios could ill afford to invest. Salkind had raised the money on his own, by wheeler-dealing from hotel bedrooms and restaurant tables in the seductive atmosphere of Cannes.

Salkind was an anomaly in modern Hollywood. The producers he admired most were the flamboyant moguls of a prewar generation - Jack Warner, Samuel Goldwyn and Louis B. Mayer, Much about present-day Hollywood he despised, particularly the "suits" - studio lawyers and accountments.

Taking risks, making a deal and beating the studios at their own game were what he lived for and, for the rest, he had no desire to follow convention. A yacht in Cannes served as home and a suitcase as his office. He dressed, as in some 1930s movie, completely in white from the tip of his Panama hat to his monogrammed shirt, white socks and shoes. He maintained a wife and mistress, quite openly, for years. And his business methods, which were variously described as sharp, devious and unscrupulous, might have been learnt from reading

Raffles as boy. Salland's peripatetic childhood meant that as an adult he spoke six languages with varying degrees of accuracy. His parents, Russian Jews in retreat from the Bolsheviks, stopped in Danzig long enough for his birth, then travelled on to Berlin, where his father gave up legal prac-tice for films. It was a booming time for the German film industry and Mikhail Salkind shot a number of films, including an early Greta Garbo silent, Joyless Street (1925). Fleeing from the Nazis, the family caught one of the last boats from Europe and escaped to Casablanca, Cuba

and Mexico. There Alexander learnt the family business, particularly TICA-LITIZIT His first coup, in 1945, was a comedy called Rocket to the Moon, for which he approached various Hollywood agents. It was clear that he could not afford a big star, so he was amazed when one agent suggested Buster Keaton. Keaton, it transpired, had been dropped by everyone because of his drinking, and was delighted to be given another chance for the modest fee of \$5,000.

After the war father and son returned to Europe and began making worthy, intellectual and totally unprofitable films. Austerlitz (1959) was written and directed by Abel Gance: The Trial (1962) started Orson Welles, who held up its release

by taking a year to edit it. Salkind had reached a low point in the 1960s. His son llya, who was to take over from Mikhail as Alexander's

parmer, provided a turning point. Picking up the script for The Light at the Edge of the World in an agent's office, he recognised a good Jules Verne yarn which an international audience might enjoy. Alexan-der Salkind hired Kirk Douglas, who was holidaying in

France, as the star. The money the Salkinds made from the film, released in 1971, put them back on track. Big slices of American life, not art-house movies, now became their speciality. They worked with Richard Burton and Raquel Welch in Bluebeard (1972) and found another vehicle for Welch in The Three Musketeers (1973).

The latter launched the concept of back-to-back production when, halfway through the filming, Salkind realised that the director Richard Lester had shot twice as much film as he needed. Without telling the actors, he asked the writer George MacDonald Fraser to string together the spare scenes, with a few new ones thrown in, and so make a sequel. The resulting Four Musketeers (1974) brought Salkind a host of laws suits from the actors. But Salkind could easily afford to settle with them out of the films' profits.

The next project was Super-man (1978), introducing the then unknown Christopher Reeve. Again, the concept was Ilya's idea - Alexander had never heard of the caped lawenforcer. But, once persuaded. Salkind made his headquarters in Cannes and began touting distribution rights with wholehearted enthusiasm — this being the means by which he intended to fund the filming. An airborne advertising campaign, in which a swarm of planes trailed the Mediterranean sky with the slogan You'll Believe a Man Can Fly", proved particularly seductive to distributors.

Costs, though, soon spiralled out of control. Several million dollars alone was paid to Marlon Brando for a few days' work on a cameo role. But Salkind kept his nerve and at the eleventh hour, when more money was needed for production to continue, forced the hand of the film's distributors, Warners. His faith in the project was proved right when it was released to vast queues outside cinemas.

Salkind was executive producer on Superman II and III (1984). But he seemed to lose his commercial touch in the last decade of his career. Santa Claus (1985), starring Dudley Moore as an elf, was a flop and so, more expensively, was Christopher Columbus (1992), - which unfortunately clashed with the release of the much better 1492 by Ridley Scott. That film also caused a rift between father and son, as Ilya's girlfriend Jane Chaplin daughter of Charlie) had put up much of her inheritance for its production. Retirement, however, was never a consideration for this tiny, energetic man. Salkind continued to hold court at his yacht in Cannes, and to welcome on board a new generation of directors and aspiring ac-

Alexander Salkind is survived by his wife Berta and their son Ilya.



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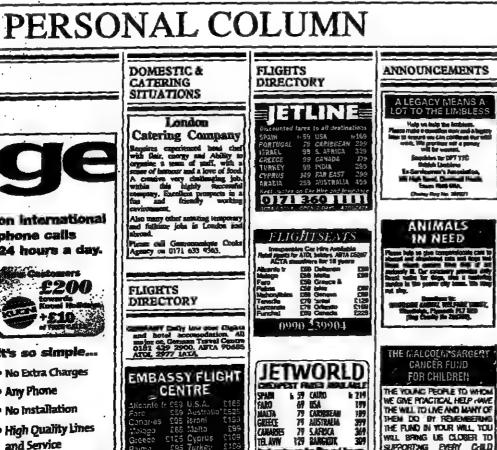
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COURT & SOCIAL

PORTECOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES Over the Easter period the following deadline will apply: All notices to appear on Priday March 20th, Sounday March 20th, Monday March 31st and Tuesday April 1st must be recieved in writing by 5pm on Wednesday March 26th. Please Sond Court Pape amounteemens by postfan to: him J. Noessan, Court & Social Advertising. The Times, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London ET 9328.

Tel: 0171 782 7347, Fax 0171 782 7725 Pleme include in all corresponded gradum of either one of the puries concerned or a partial, a daytime and home telephone margies and address. Advertising Rate is £15.28 per line her VAT.

All mores are accepted unique to com

Dean in 1978, he had to sort Gorge Museum, one of industrial archaeology's prize exhibout the last vestiges of anarchy its. With Neil Cossons - now which still plagued the Faculty Sir Neil, Director of the Sciof Commerce and Social Science Museum — he formed in ence. His firm and decisive 1971 the Ironbridge Gorge leadership secured wide-Museum Trust. He was its cospread support. director from 1980. He did not enjoy the best of When he went to Birminghealth after the war, for he had caught amoebic dysentery ham he was developing his international connections, esin the East and this left him pecially with France, and his with recurrent digestive troufrequent, especially after his industrial technology in marriage in 1953 to Thelma France and England. It was followed by a stream of arti-Knockton, also from his home cles on technical transfer and town of St Helens. After his wife's sudden the industrial espionage that death in February 1994 of a hitherto undiagnosed brain tumour, he offset loneliness by

often accompanied it. These were brought together in his book. Essays in Industry and Technology in the Eighteenth Century: England and France (1992). All this involved much study in French archives, which received recognition in 1990 with his appointment as Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. His links with North Ameri-

would probably have been

horrified if victory had wrenched him away to

Tory fortunes reached their

nadir in the general election of

1987, when the party lost half

its parliamentary representa-

tion north of the border. A

industry, but with no know-

ledge at all of economic hist-

ory. He became particularly

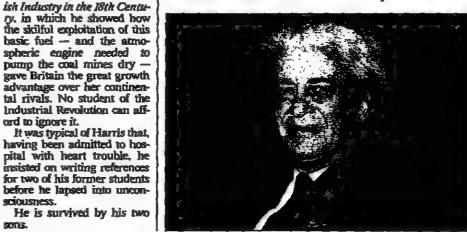
interested in the Ironbridge

Westminster.

ca were also strong and he was a frequent visitor there. He took an active part in the International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage and was its chairman from 1981 to 1984. At home he was a member of the Council of the Economic History Society and chairman of its time-consuming but very creative publications committee between 1972 and 1985. He spent much time in London as his subject's representative on the social studies sub-committee of the University Grants Committee and its panels from 1987.

John Harris was warmhearted, generous and helpful to others. In return, he received unfailing loyalty and respect from those who came to know him, though this was not always easy, as he was basically a shy man, hesitant in conversation. There was never any pretence about him, however, and he was always

insisted on writing references for two of his former students before he lapsed into unconericusness. He is survived by his two



PROCEEDINGS ON SHAW'S WILL

ord to ignore it.

VALIDITY OF TRUST

Mr. L.J. Piman, M.P., will ask the Minister of Education in the House of Commons after Easter what report he can make on the intentions of the trustees of the British Museum in regard to the acceptance of a legacy under the will of Bernard Shaw. It is understood that proceedings to dispute the will are likely to begin soon, and that the trustees of the museum may be one of the disputants.

In his will, published in 1951. Mr. Shaw left the residue of his estate on trust to institute and finance inquiries into the use of an alphabet containing at least 40 letters, to be called the Proposed British Alphabet. The ultimate residue was left to be divided equally between the British Museum, the National Gallery of Ireland, and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

The validity of the trust may depend, among other things, on whether the introduc-tion of such a new alphabet would, in the view of the court, be beneficial to the community or not. The failure of Shaw's testamentary instructions regarding the proposed British alphabet would mean that a third of a far

ON THIS DAY

March 26, 1956

Shaw's proposals for a new one-sound,

one letter alphabet of 40 characters to replace the 26-letter alphabet, were never realised.

larger sum would go to each of the bodies mentioned in the will as the ultimate legaters. The case will probably come before the court in the next two months. Under the terms of the will the residue of

the estate was left on trust to institute and finance a series of inquiries to ascertain or estimate as far as possible the number of extant persons who speak the English language and write it by the established and official alphabet of 26 letters; how much time official alphanet of 20 letters; now that the could be saved per individual scribe by the substitution for the 26 letter alphanet of an alphanet containing at least 40 letters, enabling the language to be written without

indicating single sounds by groups of letters or by discritical marks instead of by one symbol for each sound; how many of these persons are engaged in writing or printing English at any and every moment in the world: on these factors to estimate the time and labour wasted by our lack of at least 14 unequivocal single symbols; and to add where possible to the estimates of time lost or saved by the difference between the two alphabets, estimates of the loss of income in British and

American currency.

Shaw, who died in November, 1950, aged 94, Jeft £367,233 (net value £301,585), on which duty of £180,571 had been paid. He had often discussed the subject of the proposed British alphabet with Mr. Pitman, and in a letter which he wrote to Mr. Pitman on July 19, 1944, he said:

"I am therefore directing that my residuary estate shall accumulate for 20 years (the perpetuity limit) and be available meanwhile for financing certain exactly defined and limited operations - to wit (a) designing a new British one-sound-one-letter alphabet: (b) the transliteration into it of two or three masterpieces of English literature, including two of my own plays; and (c) the publication of these transliterations and depositing of copies in leading public libraries.

Yesterday's taboo, 2020's entertainment

BRENDA

MADDOX

not in short supply, have one glaring omission. What is the future of pornography? In 2020 AD what images will remain taboo, now that virtually all is on

The desperation to identify some new source of forbidden titillation is shown by the outcry over the certification of the film Crash by the British Board of Film Classification for viewing by those 18 or over. The Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, has reminded local authorities. of their power to ban it if they choose.

All sides seem to agree that Crush links sexual arousal with ear accidents. The movie passed the BBFC's muster because, in expert opinion, it was not sado-masochistic. No one was seen to take pleasure from the suffering. The board's director, James Ferman, told Today on Radio 4: "If the film had included characters that were getting off on hurting other people, that

would have made it impossible.

"Getting off on?" Now I'm
shocked. Since when has this earthy expression been acceptable Radio 4 speech? Taboos are falling so fast that you can't be sure what is beyond the pale.

The Daily Mail is fiercely campaigning against Crush and the BBFC, calling the film de-praved and an affront to common decency. In the same spirit, the Westminister City Council has banned the film, unless cut,

for showing in the West End. In a letter to The Times, a Westminster councillor explained the concern for its possible "effect on those — no doubt a minority — who could be influenced by the values of the

Little except the medium (then print, now screen) seems to have changed from the kind of protective censorship exerted in 1909 by the Circulating Libraries' Association, then representing, among others, W. H. Smith, Boots and The Times Book Club. Sharing the widespread worry about the rise in literacy, these booklenders, according to The Times of November 2, 1909. undertook that: "In future, we will not place in circulation any book which, by reason of the personal, scandalous, libellous, immoral, or otherwise disagreeable nature of its contents, is in our opinion likely to prove offensive to any considerable section of our

A reader's letter to The Times congrate lated the association on behalf of the British public that cares for the sanctities of home life, for a manhood with high ideals, and a pure womanhood" for "safeguarding readers from the contamination of the nasty

Today our sanctifies are guarded by the numerous media watchdogs on standards in advertising and in broadcasting. Yet did

you catch Cracker on ITV on March 14? Young blonde serial killer harnesses nearnaked man to a bed. The handcuffs go on. first one, then the other. Then his feet are shackled. As the fun turns to panic he screams "Please" to no avail. For her next victim, in the graded intensification of humiliation traditional in pornography, the murderess, after tying him up, tapes his month, rubs him with Vaseline, then applies her electrodes to his extremities. If you think she didn't then switch the current, you didn't see the programme.

When this kind of sadomasochism is acceptable as free Saturday night entertainment for an audience of 7.9 million (actual viewing figures), what is the point of worrying about the impact a pretentious arty film that will be seen by sucrely thousands, not millions, of people over 18, they having gone out into the cold and paid a fair sum to exercise their choice?

Public taste on ser is liberalising very fast, Images once shocking (the bare breast, the condom, male nudity, the transvestite) are now acceptable on national TV and in advertisements. So what in 20 years' time will we be laughing at for having been banned in the fusty 1990s? The erect penis, for certain, ejaculation, and sexual penetration: the three elements now taboo and whose presence

distinguishes hard from soft por-nography, absolutely forbidden. The heavens will fall? I doubt it. Who 20 years ago would have thought that shots of sexual intercourse would be routine on television? Or that no film would be complete without an on-screen visit to the lavatory? More likely, we will shudder at the prudishness of the past, which made taboo the portrayal of the activities of the healthy body, yet savoured moving pictures of the human frame in a shattered state.

The profane images of 2020 AD will probably be the cigarette, the burger and the bappy housewife with her elbows buried in studs. Along with these, with any luck, will be the seductive child and the emaciated female.

Amid such shifting standards, the protection of children must remain absolute, from the internet and videos as well as from television. Far more alarming last week than the certification of Crask was the news that the 9pm watershed isn't working. Children of five and six are watching television late at night, often alone.

The answer is to keep TV out of their bedrooms and to keep someone in the house who cares what they are watching. But to try to ban a film restricted to adults. seen around the world without cuts or controversy, is worse than patronising. It is

LISTENER

Guerin role for Jodie?

THE actress Jodie Foster is being tipped to play Veronica Guerin, the murdered Irish journalist, in a Hollywood film based on her life. Sources say that Carol Doyle, the Irish film writer, is well advanced with a script for the project which is being masterminded by Jerry Bruckheimer, whose credits include Top Gun and The Rock.

The film is based in part on The Martyrdom of Veronica Guerin, an article written by the investigative reporter Mike Sager in the March edition of American GQ.

Sager, meanwhile, has hit upon a relatively untapped seam of journalistic inspiration. He is about to sign a vixfigure deal with Bruckheimer. which would give the producer the first film rights on any story he is working on. The arrangement would also alkw the studio to suggest stories for

Sager to report on.
It is not the first time that Sager has struck gold. Last year he landed \$750,000 from TriStar Pictures and Bruckheimer for the rights to a GQ



Jodie Foster, left, may enact the life of Veronica Guerin

story he had written about Janet Cooke, a former Washington Post reporter who won a Pulitzer Prize for a story that turned out to be bogus

Sager insists cryly that his latest deal with Bruckheimer would not affect his journalistic integrity or the types of stories he goes after "It just means that 18 years of journalist work is beginning to pay off retroactively. The says

Title hopes A REFRESHING new twist to rumours that the EMAPowned may Media Week

could be sold off comes with the news that Mathew Horsman media pundit with Henderson Crosthwaite, has been having discussions with City financiers with a view to buying the troubled title. It seems that the indefatigable Horsman, who when he is not doing his day job writes columns for numerous publications and beavers away on his book on BSkyB, wants to relaunch it as a "super media title", bringing in specialist correspondents from all the national dailies as columnists. He may possibly even pen a

Pressing decision THE barons of the regional press joined John Major for lunch on the day he called the general election. All the leading proprietors were present except one. But Philip Graf. chief executive of Trimity Holdings (the largest regional newspaper publisher in Brit-ain which boasts 120 titles) insists that nothing political should be read into his absence. He sent a colleague in his place, saying that as it was the day before the board discussed the group's annual results, he had had to make a difficult decision about the best use of his time. Quite.

 An article in last week's Sunday Times in which it was alleged that Cherie Booth had become anorexic after her husband became leader of the opposition in 1994 has infuriated Labour who say the allegations are totally untrue and they are seeking a retraction. The Sunday Times says it has yet to receive a complaint. Curiously, the suggestion that Ms Booth became anorexic is new, but the quote from an unnamed friend — "It's a bit like Princess Diana. She's been thrown into the public arena and she's nervous' was old, having appeared in an anonymous profile of the Labour leaders wife in The

Sunday Times in 1994. Thai the piece should have been written by Sarah Baxter is also intriguing. At the New Statesman, she was a trailblazer for New Labour and until now has been a pin-up of the young bucks who staff Labour's rapid rebuttal unit in Millbank. It is Jeared that the dog-eared photographs of her will now be removed and her name spoken in only the most hushed tones.

Not so fast

THE ASIAN AGE newspaper, published in London and Delhi, made a fatal mistake last week. Seeing a wire story about "tributes pouring in to Dame Vera Lynn", a sub at the paper hastily bashed out the headline "World War It's Top Sweetheart Vera Lynn Dies. stuck it on top of the copy and pushed it through. The sad news appeared in the paper.

Closer examination re-vealed, however, that the tributes - from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and John Major - were prompted by an 80th birthday bash thrown for Damne Vera at the Imperial War Museum.

"It takes me back to the war," she says. "The Japanese used to put out reports that I had been killed in an air raid in the hope that it would lower the troops' morale."

168

Cashing in on the action

AN INCREASING number of bigbudget ads, which almost amount to mini-movies, are rapping into the current taste for Hollywood action movies such as Star Wars and Dante's

The latest blockbuster commercial is the new Lowe Howard-Spink film for Smirnoff, out next week. This offsecond, adrenalin-pumping film shifts through seven sets and horrows heavily from Mission Impossible.

It features a villain and his henchmen in pursuit of a couple and involves runaway trains, rough seas and alien spacecraft. It took six months to film. cost an estimated El million to make (roughly five times the cost of an average commercial) and even takes its name - Smarienberg - from a combination of the Sixties chase film Last Year in Marienberg and the director Stephen Spielberg.

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ADVERTISING

hecome higger and more global and are prepared to spend a lot more money than before on big. global campaigns," says one observer.

UNLIKEABLE advertising does work, according to Jaspar Shelbourne. executive creative director of J Walter Thompson, the UK's second biggest

Speaking at the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising "It Pays to Advertise" conference last week. Mr Shelhourne flew in the face of received wisdom that likeability is the best route to effectiveness - that theory being that if you can get your audience to laugh or feel good, they will correspondingly remember the ad and smile on your product.

"Liking be damned. Effectiveness

goes hand in hand with initation," he said, then made his point by showing a series of commercials such as the infuriatingly memorable Shake N' Vac ad from the Seventies.

FAMOUS gaffes made by politicians when speaking foreign languages are to feature in a new press campaign for the translation company Wordbank.

They range from John Kennedy's Ich bin ein Berliner", which actually means "I am a doughnut", in Winston Churchill, who once addressed a French audience with the equivalent of When I look at my backside, I see that it's split in two parts", instead of "When I look at my past"

The agency Leo Burnett is scouring for some more recent galles with which to embarrass prominent British politicians in the pre-election period.



BELINDA ARCHER A poster of John Kennedy's gaffe

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The Jacksons are happily married. OK!

MICHAEL JACKSON, the re- and was followed up by most clusive and eccentric pop star, broke cover this week in his usual claborately orchestrated and impeccably hyped style to show off his newborn son and give his first interview in print

In doing so he achieved more than simply denying rumours that his marriage is a sham. His decision to auction photographs of him at home provoked the most astonishing salvo to date in the battle between the two frothiest celebrity magazines; a payout which being trumpeted as the biggest ever in the history of socalled cheque book journalism.

The story in this week's OK!

heat its traditional rival Hello!

national newspapers and television. In the magazine Jackson is shown playing happy families with wife Debbie Rowe and his one-month-old son, the extraordinarily named Prince Michael Junior. While the magazine will not disclose exactly how much it forked out it is understood to be well over El million and OK!'s editor Sharon Ring certainly does not underplay the deal.

We believe it is the most that anybody has ever paid for a story," she says, but also stresses the other difficulties of dealing with such a superstar. The money was an important part but there were also months

OK! has pulled off a coup in getting the pop star to give his first interview in 18 years, says Damian Whitworth

ly appears to have been deeply

probing but the magazine

he was not given an easy ride.

other than one on American

television, in 18 years, 16's a

proper interview. We said

Look, there's all this specula-

tion' and he hits back at the

"This is his first interview.

scoops. It was like following the yellow hrick road but we got to the wizard in the end."

Jackson, of course, -- reputedly worth £600 million hardly needed the fee, though an undisclosed slice of it will be World. But according to OK! he ing to his charity Heal the was persuaded to do the interview in order to deny recent reports that his marriage to Debbie Rowe, a nurse, is merely one of convenience. The line of questioning hard-

speculative stories. He says it's proper marriage.'

which, at nine-years-old, is now the establishment figure in the market having pioneered athome-with-the-stars journalism that OK! and others have aped. If OK! is to close on Hello!,

however, its robust marketing and scooping will have to be maintained. Hello! is still way out in front selling 536,000 copies a week. Sally Cartclaims it will list next week the questions that Jackson refused to answer and Ring insists that wright, publishing director of Hello! claims that the magazine was offered the Jackson scoop but the star was asking too much money. The amount of money they lelt the story was worth and what we felt it was

worth were not the same." OK! has outstripped the other challenegers to Hellos's crown

audacious bid to take on Hello! and built a circulation of 200,000, since it became a weekly publication last year, by providing readers with a slightly different package of beaming celebrities than are to be found in Hello!

> One of the magazine's most successful covers ever featured the actress Michelle Collins (Cindy Beale in EastEnders) with her baby, and the magazine prides itself on avoiding the minor members of European royalty that crop up in its rival. This approach prompted Ulrika Jonsson to declare that she was bored with the aristocratic profile of Hello! "OK! has more accessible people and a more down-to-earth style than

> > and INEN MA THEIR OWN A

Advertising soon at a cinema near you

Alexandra Frean on the ambitious attempt by the media company Carlton Communications to change the face of cinema advertising

down the country can expect a distincily new experience as they settle down with their popcorn and Maltesers next month. It is part of an ambitious attempt by the media company Carlton Communications to change the face of big-screen advertising.

For millions of film fans, no outing to the cinema seems complete without experiencing the unmistakable jingle of the advertising contractor Pearl & Dean — Pa paa pa paa pa paa

pa pa paa" — but for Adam Poulter. managing director of Cariton Screen Advertising, it is an irritating Irrele-

Poulter-Mr points out that although 15 years ago Pearl & Dean controlled 70 per cent of all cinema advertising, _today. it has just 20 per The rest is con-

troiled by Cariton Screen Advertising (formerly known as Cinema Media). which Carlion Communications bought last summer.

In an attempt to alter the public perception of cinema advertising and expand the business. Cariton has created a striking new film identity, which will play before and after all adverts in the cinemas it is contracted to from April. It shows a star-shaped branding iron appearing out of pink, purple and red flames and then exploding onto the

Branding iron ... brands ... advertising. Get h? The imagery, created by the corporate identity guru Martin

e desperately need

publicity for our new

season. It gets hard-

Lambie Naim (responsible among other things for the memorable screen "idents" of BBC2, Channel 4 and Carlton television) is hardly subtle.

Mr Poulter agrees that over-coming the Pearl & Dean legacy will be a struggle. Their musical soundtrack is everybody's authentic idea of felt that we could achieve it by creating an 'ident' that was very strong visually. Cinema is, after all, a form of visual

The new screen identity



Carlton: the new name in cinema advertising

the first stage in Cariton's game plan. Cinema advertis-ing in the UK currently represents just 0.8 per cent of all display advertising, the equivalent of just £70 million.

Mr Poulter aims to increase it to 1.3 per cent of all media (equivalent to a spend of £134 million) by the year 2000. To do so, he will have to achieve compound growth over four

years of 65 per cent. "A forecast of 180 million admissions and 1,000 new screens over this period makes this an ambitious, but attainable target." Mr Poulter says. It may sound ambitious, but placed within its historical context, it does indeed seem

the cinema." he says. "But we

entertainment," he says.

admissions reached Lo billion a year. The advent of television coincided with a steady decline, reaching a low point in 1984 when admissions bottomed at 54 million. There has been a steady revival since then, due largely to the growth in multiplex

The high point of British cinema was in 1945 when

cinemas (the first was built in Milton Keynes in 1985). There are now 2100 screens

in the UK and admissions last vear were 124 million. Be-

> 1996. 500 multiplex cinemas were built. Land contracts have been signed for a further 585, where construction is expected to start in 1997 and 1998. That, simply, is

where we see the growth coming from. There will be more screens, bigger audiences and more minutage." Mr Poulter says. Unlike America.

where cinemas have historically been largely ad-free zones, cinema-goers in the UK have come to see cinema adverts as part of the entertainment

Once the domain of tacky local curry house ads, cinema advertising has made great strides in the past two decades. The steady improvement in

production values, special offeers, sound quality and graphics in films and trailers has been mirrored in the big screen advertisements that precede them. The latest adverts for Levi's. Pirelli and Virgin Atlantic are all testimoadvertisers lured to the cinema



For years, no outing to the cinema was complete without experiencing the unmistakable jingle of the advertising contractor Pearl & Dean

the last two years - BMW. Häagen-Dazs. Nissan Micra, Sony PlayStation, and Whitbread's Boddingtons.

roviding that the adverts do not last more than 13 minutes, audiences do not just tolerate them, they now frequently welcome them.

Because of the dedicated, distraction-free environment in which they are watched, cinema advertisements are reckuned in the industry to be five times more memorable to viewers than television ads. And because of the nature of the cinema audience, they are urguably easier to target.

Although the core cinema audience of 16 to 30-year-olds The English Patient. has grown by 60 per cent in the past decade, the biggest increases have been at the periphery. The number of 7 to

time, while the 30-plus age group has quadrupled. This reflects the widening range of films available (a phenomenon itself made possible by the advent of the multiplex) with an increase in children's films, such as Toy Story. Lost World and Batman and Robin at the younger end and a growth in

Sense and Sensibility, and It is among advertisers targeting these two groups that

Carlton is expecting most of its growth - confectionery and 14-year-olds going to the cine-ma has tripled over the same toy manufacturers at one end of the scale and luxury goods. financial services and cars at the other. Mr Poulter, who has in-

creased his staff 40 per cent to 51. dismisses industry speculation that the only way he will be able to achieve his target is through a conditional sell of Carlton's television and cinema advertising as a package.

"We are an independent, autonomous operation," he things at the other such as

Lambs to the slaughter

er and harder to sell anything. So poor old theatre has to agreed to help and there are shout louder to gain attention. It hasn't the funds to afford major advertising. A few years ago, I was Lvnn Barber. casting a play in the West End

and suggested a major actor to my producer. Please don't have him." he said. I couldn't anderstand this - he was perfectly suited to the part. He will not give interviews. We can't afford that," explained the producer. Actors are more reluctant to talk to the press because the

rules have changed over the past few years. I know I shall he told that the theatre is lucky to get the amount of space it does, I also understand that we can't expect editors to be puff machines for the theatre. But we have reached a point where most theatre interviews are about sex rather than acting, personal relationships rather than theatre.

I discussed all this with the new Company at The Old Vic. We are a lean and mean organisation, without subsidy and financed by the generous patronage of the Mirvishes. the owners of The Old Vic. We have very little money for advertising. The Company some big names among them that are attractive to the press. We all knew the dangers. Take Being written about by

Lynn Barber must be an awesome experience. She is the undoubted star of the proceedings - not her subject - and she is only interested in whom she is interviewing so that she can express her prejudices and parade her resentments. She is bitchy (though usually amusing) and writes brilliantly. She is the Columnist of the Year.

Well... Felicity Kendal agreed to do a major interview to promote our Old Vic season: I suppose it is time I was Barbered," she said checrfully. was grateful to her for traipsing off to the slaughter.

And slaughter it was though there were some nice pictures. There was, unfortunately, very little about Feliciry's work at The Old Vic: but a great deal about her private life. Here are two extracts: Personally, if a man says he fancies Felicity Kendal, I take it as a sign that he is sexually defunct. But don't mind me. I hewildered

Theatre critics are only interested in titillation, says Peter Hall

are

am jeakous." And: "Of course. she looked wonderful, wonderful skin, hair. figure - even her neck is unlined - though I was secretly gratified to notice that her hands looked older than mine, hideous knotted bony claws with

crimson talons." Then Miss Barber moved on to Felicity's marriages and a list of her presumed lovers. I greeted Felicity

nervousiy the morning after publication. She was very cheerful. ("I rather 2 E W dreading it. she said. But it was fine. I've known

people come out of it much tongueing l'elicity Kendal". In worse." And in a sense she was right. I was clear who had come out of it badly, and it wasn't Felicity Kendal. Matters were not improved

a few days later when a

Pennington came to rehearsal fresh from being interviewed by The Independent. The first question had been related to a scene in Waste, which the interviewer had seen, "What's it like to snog Felicity Kendal? he asked. "Do you

tringue each other... tongue down the throat?" Mich-Most ael defended himstories self: "I think tongues are cheating when it comes to stage kissing. about The audience can't see it... playing sex, not love scenes is daft." 1 imagined an acting' Independent headline reading "Penn-

ington denies the event, the interview turned out an interesting read, and there were even a few small mentions of the play. Cynics think that none of this matters. All that matters is that the theatre is talked about. But it

worries me. Actors are hard-working, generous and re-sponsible people. In my experience, they are no more promiscuous or hypocritical or treacherous than the rest of the population. So I don't like them being represented as sexobsessed loonies.

The only thing that measures up to sex as a lure for the press is the whiff of conflict. This is just a mini-National Theatre," said one journalist sniffily at our first press conference. "What makes you think people need The Old Vic? You're taking on Trevor

Nunn. aren't you?" What I should have done was to ring up my old friends, Richard Eyre and Trevor Nunn at the National Theatre, and Adrian Noble at the Ruyal Shakespeare Company and warn them that as I desperately needed the occasional front page, they were not to believe the outrageous things they would read the following day. Then I should have stood up and said: "I throw down a gauntlet to Trevor Nunn and his new National Theatre," or

"Adrian Noble better watch

out - we're after his Barbican

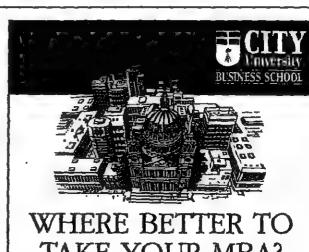
audience." But I didn't. Thank God, Waste has had a marvellous critical reception. In these early days of building an audience, good notices are important.

There was one vociferous objector, Michael Coveney, in The Observer, who reminds me of the small child who is given an egg to hold and is cautioned not to squeeze it. Unfortunately, there are al-ways a few children who will be tempted to close the hand and crush the egg.

Now I don't want anybody (and certainly not Coveney) to think that I object to him hating Waste (a bloodless hieratic production") and my work in general: it is his right as a critic. But at the end of his notice, he parades his prejudice by writing off the rest of the season - which, for obvious reasons, he hasn't yet seen. The evening never lives up to the subject, and presages a worthy season rather than an essential or pulsatingly attractive one."

This is maximum damage with minimum evidence. There are eight productions by other directors, including exciting new plays. But Covency has made up his mind already. A pity...

• The author is artistic director of



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17

Receivers cannot recover both purchase price and property purchased

Sharp and Others v Woolwich Building Society Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Jauncey of Tullichenie, Lord Steyn and Lord Clyde

Speeches February 27 The effect of section 53(7) of the insolvency Act 1986 was to make available to receivers as security under a floating charge the properry in which the company had a beneficial interest but excluded property to which the company held the recorded title but had no beneficial interest.

The House of Lords so held in Yowing an appeal by the second ety, against a lecision of the First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Sesson (the Lord President (Lord Hose), Lord Sutherland and Lord Coustield) (1995 SLT 837) upholding a lecision of the Lord Ordinary granting, inter alia, a declarator in favour of the respon-dents, receivers appointed under section 53(f), that a floating charge granted by Albyn Construction Ltd ttached to a flat at 10 Whinhill Road, Aberdeen, upon their nent as receivers and that they were entitled to exercise their verko sell ir.

Miss/Thomson, claimed to be the beneficial owners of the flat as purchasers for money, having borrowed money from the

Act 1985 provides: "(1) It is com-petent under the law of Scotland for an incorporated company ... for the purpose of securing any debt ... to create in favour of the creditor in the debt ... a floating charge, over all or any part of the property (including uncalled cap-ital) which may from time to time be comprised in its property and

Section 53 provides: "(7) On the appointment of a receiver under this section, the floating charge by virtue of which he was appointed attaches to the property then subject to the charge: and such attachment has effect as if the charge was a fixed security over the property to which it has

Mr Colin Campbell, QC and Mr A. R. W. Young for the appellants; Mr R. D. MacKay, QC and Mr P. S. Hodge, QC, for the respondents.

LORD JAUNCEY said that on July 2, 1984 Albyn granted a its property which might from time to time be "comprised in out property and undertakings". The floating charge was duly regfloating charge was duly reg-istered with the Registrar of Albyn then entered into missives

with the Thomsons for sale of a flat at a price of £40,000 which was duly paid having been borrowed from the appellants. Entry was given on April 14, 1989. On August

9, 1990 Albyn delivered an exe-cuted disposition of the flat to the

Thomsons' solicitors. On August 10, 1990 the respondents were appointed as receivers by the holders of the floating

On August 21, 1990 the disposition together with a standard security granted by the Thomsons to the appellants were recorded in the General Register of Sasinus.

Thereafter a dispute arose behand and the Thomsons and the appellants on the other as to ether the floating charge attached to the flat on August 10.

In the course of a carefully reasoned judgment the Lord Presi-dent concluded that since in the law of Scotland there could be no fragmentation of the concept of ownership and since property in of the relevant deed in the appro-priate register it followed that the property in the flat remained in Albyn at the time when the floating charge attached

When floating charges were introduced by the Companies (Floating Charges) (Scotland) Act 19ol they were a novel conception the law of Scotland. They required to be registered after granting but only in the register in the companies office.

They might never crystallise.

attached to heritage it had been be left to rank with other creditors generally accepted that they had in any proceedings to recover what they had paid. the immediate effect of a recorded standard security. The result was Conversely, the holders of the to create a real right in land which

floating charge would have avail-able as a fund out of which to satisfy Albyn's indebtedness to them, not only so much of the purchase price as remained in bonis in Albyn but also such sum as they might realise on the sale of Albyn's property for the pur-

poses of section 53(7) theoretically included both the purchase price and the flat itself. On any view that would be an unjust result. The appellants were neither seeking to elevate the delivery of a disposition per se into the creation of real right nor to qualify the rule

perfect a title good against bona fide third parties. Furthermore, the appellants accepted that the rights conferred by Albyn's disposition would have yielded to a disposition in favour of a bona fide purchaser for value prior to August 21, 1990.

They were accordingly not seek-ing to challenge any to the propo-sitions anent feudal rights contained in the responde Londship's view no principle which required that the word property occurring in relation to crystallisation of a floating charge had to be given the restricted meaning sought by the

everything to be said for giving it a practical common sense meaning which was likely to produce a fair and equitable results between the parties affected by the

Property" was not a technical

Brooks v Lind and Others

A newspaper report of descriptions

of a local councillor as forming

part of a "mafia", and of decision

in which he had had a part as

"sheer lunacy" and "gross mal-administration" had not been

defamatory. The phrase "ma-licious misuse of public money", as

local authority of consultations with lawyers to consider support-

ing him in an action for defama-tion, might have been defamatory,

Lord Coulsfield, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of

Session, so held, granting decree of absolvitor in favour of Mr Gordon

Lind and others in an action for

alleged defamation brought

against them by Mr James Brooks.

suer: Mr Neil Boyd and Mr John

McLaughlin for the defenders.

Mr Derek Francis for the pur-

LORD COULSTIFLD said that

the pursuer complained of two articles published in the Airdrie &

rest in such litigation it had

Before Lord Coulsfield

Budgment February 28

exhaustive definition of the word. was therefore appropriate to construe "property and undertakway having regard to the context in

which the expression occurred. The purpose of a floating charge was to provide security to the holder in preference to the general creditors and the role of a receiver once appointed, was to deal with the property of the company to which the floating charge

Companies Act 1985 nor in the 1986

Act was there to be found any

attached in such a way as to satisfy the debt thereby secured. There was nothing in the legisla tion which specifically conferred on a receiver the right to do that which the company could not have done. Had Albyn after receiving the price and delivering the disposition to the Thomsons carried out the same exercise with a third party or granted a standard security over the flat in exchange for a loan it would have committed a fraud but the ability to commit such a fraud did not amount to a beneficial right of property: see Heritable Reversionary Co Ltd v

Millar ((1892) 19R (HL) 43). If the respondents were entitled mow to sell the flat for which mow to sen the flat for which Albyn had already been paid they would effectively be confiscating that in which the only beneficial interest was in the Thomsons and the appellants and doing that which Albyn could not lawfully

Had the legislation intended to confer confiscatory powers upon receivers such as were given neither to trustees in bankruptcy nor to liquidators it was more than remarkable that there was no specific provision to that effect.

When the statutory provisions

ing they had to be given the which was available for the use of the company, in which it had a beneficial interest, and which it was in law entitled to dispone or

CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR O

subject to heritable security. Those provisions were concerned with what was lawfully available to satisfy a company's obligations to the holder of a floating charge and not with formalities of feudal title.

The position of a receiver appointed under a floating charge differed from that of a trustee in bankruptcy or a liquidator in that it was accepted that his appointment created a real right in security over the company's heritage whereas the Act and warrant of confirmation without registration did not clothe the trustee in sequestration with a feudal title to the bankrupt's heritable estate. Similarly, a liquidator on appointment did not thereby acquire a real right to the company's heritage. Those distinctions were ba-

sically procedural. However, if the respondents' argument were cor-rect it would mean that not only did the holder of the floating charge have the procedural advantage of obtaining a real right of security without having to record any document of creation but that acquiring a right over heritable property which could not be ob-tained by a trustee in sequestration

It would require very clear statutory provision to persuade his Lordship that Parliament had intended such a result. At the time when the floating

charge crystallised by the appoint

therein. The ability to grant deeds in fraud of the disposition to the Thomsons did not amount to a

right of property in law. The effect of section 53(7) was to make available as security all the property in which Aibyn had a

Since Albyn had no such interest in the flat at the date of crystallisation it followed that the loating charge did not attach

LORD CLYDE, concurring. said that at one stage in his argument counsel for the respondents indicated that the consequences of construing the words "property and undertaking" in the way for which the appellants contended would have serious consequences both for the practical operation of floating charges and r the law of Scotland.

But the practical consequences when explored did not appear to involve greater difficulty than was already encountered in the kinds of inquiry which the receiver would require in any event to undertake.

Counsel accepted that there were no consequences so far as moveable property was concerned and although concern was expressed in the First Division about the uncertainties in the operation of a floating charge which would follow upon the appellants' success, in the formulation of the argument which was presented before the House it was eventually not strenuously maintained that any serious problems should ensue. Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord

Solicitors: Dyson Bell Martin, Victoria for Dundas & Wilson, CS, Edinburgh; Clyde & Co for Paull &

Power to protect wife's interest in home

McMahon's Trustee v

McMahon Before Lord Prosser, Lord Johnston and Lord Wylie

Judgment February II in common by the wie and her husband's trustee in kankruptcy, and both before any after her husband's sequestration the wife had paid the instalments of a loan thereby preventing its sale by the secured creditor, the lower of the court to impose conditions on a sale of the property by the trustee. under the Scottish equivalent of section 336 of the Inolvency Act requiring him to make recompense to the wife it so far as the house had increased in value

inring the time she lad repaid the An Extra Division of the Inner House of the Couriol Session so held, refusing an open by Mr Gerald Rankin, tastee on the sequestrated estatesof Mr Robert McMahon, againsthe refusal of the Sheriff at Airdr to dismiss a counterclaim by Mrs Wilma

Section 40 of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985 rovides: "(2) Where the permanent trustee requires a obtain the authority of the cort . . . the court. after having regrd to all the circumstances of te case, includ-

ing —
(a) the needs and financial resources of the deter's spouse or forner spouse; (b) the needs and financial resources of an child of the

(d) the length of the period during whichne family home was used as a redence by any of the person referred to in pararaph may refuse to grant the appliention or may postpone the granting of the application for such period (not exceeding 12 months) as it may consider reasonable in the circui stances or may grant the applica-

tion subject to such conditions as it may prescribe." Mr Patrick Hodge, QC, for the pursuer and appellant; Mr Mich-ael Upton for the defender and

LORD PROSSER, delivering the opinion of the court, said that the bankrupt's estates included a half share in the family home. The respondent did not consent to a sale, and accordingly the trustee the court under section 40. in response, the respondent

sought the imposition of a condition that she should receive from the sale proceeds half of the increase in the value of the subjects from when she had begun to repay a loan secured over them, or half of the repayments made by her.

The appellant contended that section 40(2) did not empower the court to require the payment of part of the sale proceeds to a dependent relative who was also a

The Report of the Cork Committee on Insolvency Law and Practice (Cmnd 8558) Indicated effect of bankruptcy on the family's need to prefer other family inin part or whole the rights of

The statute contained no general the fund available for creditors.

that view, for otherwise the process sale could open up an inquiry of the kind which one would expect to find in a complicated divorce.

If such applications were liable to give rise to such difficulty, it would become questionable whether trustees would attempt to realise such properties at all. Furthermore, prescribing con-

ditions under section 40(2) so us to give preference to the claims of a dependent spouse over other credcareful equalising provisions which had always been part of Scots bankruptcy law. It was common ground that in

loan repayments made prior to the sequestration, the respondent was Her claim in respect of sub-

sequent repayments, or the simultaneous increase in the property's value, was a claim against the trust estate, which she was entitled to enforce prior to the paripassu ranking between the pre-sequestration creditors. Both were daims in unjustified enrichment. It was accepted by the respon-

dent that conditions could not be imposed in favour of persons other than the contemplated depen-dants; that they had in some way to or occupation; and that they had to It was in the Cork Report, rather

than section 40, that the appellant found indications of a fairly specific function to be served by any There was a possible flaw in that

approach; unless scrutiny of the statutory provisions left one in as to th there should be no need to go to hackground documents. in any event, the report had

emphatically abstained from delining the types of condition that would provide the desired protection, and had opted for leaving the matter to the absolute discretion of

had not been recorded in the appropriate register of heritable rights and which took precedence

over any prior grant of heritable

rights which had not already been

recorded. That was indeed a

The appellants accepted that a

good feudal title to the flat could

only have been acquired by record-

ing Albyn's disposition but they

argued that property for the pur-

poses of the floating charge and section 53(7) of the 1986 Act was not

synonymous with a leudal title to heritage. Rather tild properly in the context of heritage connote the

the context of heritage connote the current beneficial interest in the

subjects which was capable of

The respondents, on the other

hand, maintained that the prop-

times in Albyn, that the delivery of

the disposition did no more than

enforceable against the disponers, in the law of Scotland property in

heritage was always vested in the

holder of the recorded title thereto.

The argument for the respon-dents which was accepted below produced a most inequitable result

for the Thomsons and the appel lants who had between them paid

carry a defeasible personal right

erty in the flat was at all materi

significant innovation.

the court (paragraph 1131). ships could find no basis for straints other than those conceded by the respondent. It might well be that it would only rarely or in unusual circumstances be seen as reasonable to produce a material for the creditors.

The fact that a hypothetical mean that it was in the least likely to be imposed. Leaving the matter to the court did not imply a lack of control; it was a different type of control, perhaps less predictable and certain than the use of detailed specification of rights, but none th less appropriate, as the Cork Report recognised, in the Interests of achieving justice in Individual

While there might be cases that gave rise to wide and perhaps complex inquiry, that possibility possible variety of conditions to be considered, but by the width and variety of the circumstances to which the section told the court that it might have regard. As for the ranking of creditors,

section 40(2) was only one of a number of provisions which would result in a diminution of the fund looked at as a preliminary matter after which the ranking provisions operated in the normal way. Law agents: John G. Gray & Co.

Coatbridge Advertiser in connection with his activities as a councilior, deputy provost and Labour Cumbernauld: Simpson & Monklands Maffa" to describe Marwick, WS. for Moore & Parthim and other councillors who

'Monklands Mafia' claim not defamatory expression lied to their activities.

> However, it was reasonably clear and not disputed, that while those terms had been used to express criticism, they did not in themselves convey any suggestion of dishonest or improper activities. The first of the two articles complained of had reported a council meeting called to discu joint venture that the council had entered into with a bank to develop

a shopping centre. The project had exceeded its budget and the council had been asked to approve the payment of a further sum of £1,000,000 towards its comple The newspaper had named the pursuer as one of the councillors responsible for the joint venture agreement and had reported a dissenting councillor as saying that "it is sheer lunacy and gross maladministration". It had been a

fair report of the meeting. second article had concested consultations that had been held between the council's solicitors and, the solicitors understood, the council over the possibility of proceedings for defamation because of the use of expressions such as "Monklands

had decided to support legal action by the pursuer and another coun-cilior, on the advice of counsel no

The article had reported the chairman of the local Conservative Party as commenting on the fund-ing of the joint venture and of the to the Local Government Audit Commission to say "there has been a malicious misuse of public money and it would seem appropriate that consideration should be given to surcharging the two

In their context, even on the assumption that the expressions "sheer lunary" and "gross mal-administration" applied to the they were not defamutory.

the action", identifying one of them

It was clear that the word "lunacy" was not to be taken literally. "Gross maladministra-tion" was a criticism of the pursuer's judgment, not of his honesty.

of the "rough language" with which Lord McLaren hud said in McLaughian v Örr Polinck & Co. with the conduct of public business had to put up. The suggestion that the pursuer should be surcharged neither necessarily nor in the present context implied

assume that the phrase "malicious misuse of public money" implied personal criticism of the pursuer. tions about legal action had been taken for wrong motives, and his Lordship had come to the view that t might be defamatory.

The phrase did not infer per-sonal dishonesty. It might infer that that the legal action was to have been undertaken, at least in part, in the interest of the pursuer rather than for the benefit or some legitimate interest of the council but in all the circumstances, in his Lordship's opinion, that was a comment which could honestly and reasonably be made and clearly fell within the defence of

The council meeting, the report thereof, and the letter to the Audit Commission were all ortvikeed occasions. The question remainer whether the newspaper's report of the aubstance of the latter com-

plaint was also privileged His Lordship reserved his opinion on the extent of privilege, but was not satisfied that, had it contained defamatory matter that had not been fair comment, etter, as opposed to the fact that a complaint had been made, would have been entitled to the benefit of qualified privilege: see Mutch v Robertson (198) SLT 217): Webb v 535) and Gatley on Libel and Siander paragraph 56Off).

Law agents: Paull & William-sons, WS, Haig-Scott & Co, WS.

Europan Law Report

Divorce order is enforceable abroad Whether employees' rights are protected

🙏 Yan den Boogrd v Laumen Case C-720/95

Before J. C. Moinho de Almeida, President of Fit Chamber and Judges C. Gulann, D. A. O. Edward, J.-P. Elssochet and P.

Advuente Generi F. G. Jacobs (Opinion Decemer 12)

Judgment Febrary 27 An order in dorce proceedings for payment of sump sum and the transfer of owership of certain other contraine state under the Brussels onvention if its purpose was tensure the former

spouse's maintance. The Fifth Chroher of the Court of Justice of the uropean Commu-nities so helt when giving a preliminary rung, pursuant to a reference by th Arrondissementsrechtbank te ansterdam under the protocol of one 3, 1971 on the interpretation by the European Court of the Fussels Convention of September 1, 1968 on Jurisdiction and the Elorcement of Judg-ments in Civ and Commercial Matters, as mended by the Convention of Convention of October 9, 1978 on the accession (Denmark, Ireland and the Unite Kingdom (UJ 1979 L304 p77) and the Convention of October 25, 192 on the accession of Per Hellenic Republic (U 1982 ESS pt).

The parties were married in The regime of community of property. In 1980 they intered into a marriage contret, again in The Netherlands, which altered their matrimonial egime into one of separation of odds.

In 1982 day moved to Lundon and in 199 the High Court dissolved thenarriage.

In her application for ancillary

relief the wifeought a clean break between herelf and her husband. and the cort awarded her a capital sum o that periodic pay-ments of mantenance would be

The court et the total amount which the wie should be awarded in order to povide for herself at a certain figure, of which part was covered by her own funds, the sale of moveable property and the transfer to the wife of certain property. As to the remainder the court ordered the husband to pay the wife a brop sum.

The cour had held that the separation of goods agreement sought were related to the possible

On an application by the wife for enforcement of the English judg-ment in The Netherlands, one question which arose was whether the ancillary relief order was excluded from the scope of the Brussels Convention by article for

whether it could be covered under Article I provides: "This Convenarucie i provides: This Conven-rion ... shall not apply to: (i) ... rights in property arising out of a matrimonial relationship.... Arucle 5 provides: "A person domiciled in a contracting state may, in another contracting state, he sued ... (2) in matters relating

In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice held: The Convention did not define rights in property arising out of a relationship had to be distinguished as only the

latter was covered by the Convention Because on divorce an English court could, by the same decision. regulate both the matrimonial relationships of the parties and matters of maintenance, the court from which leave to enforce was sought must distinguish between those aspects of the decision which

WWF UK (World Wide Fund

for Nature) (supported by

Kingdom of Sweden, inter-

vener) v Commission of the

European Communities

(supported by French Repub-

lic and United Kingdom.

Although the refusal by the Com-

mission of the European Commu-

nities of access to documents

relating to an investigation which might lead to infringement

proceedings under article 169 of

the EU Treaty was justifiable on

the ground of protection of the

public interest, the Commission

was not entitled simply to invoke

that ground without more, but was

required to indicate, at the very

least by reference to categories of

it considered that the documents

interveners)

Case T-105/95

ship and those relating to maintenance, having regard in each case to the specific aim of the decision It should be possible to deduce

that aim from the reasoning of the decision in question. If it showed that a provision awarded was designed to enable one spouse to provide for him or herself or if the needs and resources of each spouse were taken into consideration in the determ-

mation of its amount, the decision would be concerned with กเอากระบบกระ On the other hand, where the provision awanted was solely concerned with dividing property between the spouses, the decision would be concerned with rights in property arising out of a matri

A decision which did both things

montal relation

could, in accordance with article 42 of the Convention, be enforced in part if it clearly showed the aims to which the different parts of the judicial provision corresponded It made no difference that payment of maintenance was provided for in the form of a lump sum rather than periodical payments. That form of payment could also be in the nature of maintenance where the capital sum was de-

signed to secure a predetermined

opening of an infringement

The Fourth Chamber (Extended

Composition) of the Court of First

Instance of the European Commu-

nities so held on March 5 when

annulling a Commission decision

of February 2, 1995 to refuse the

relating to the Commission's

ment project to build a visitors' centre at Mullaghmore in Burren

National Park, Ireland, after the

Commission, having investigated allegations that the project in-

was ineligible for structural funds

intend to initiate Treaty infringe-

ment proceedings.

had announced that it did not

The Court said that the code of

conduct on public access to Com-

mission and Council documents,

adonted by the Commission under

article 1 of Decision 94/90/ECSC.

The choice of method of payment made by the court of origin could not alter the nature of the aim

pursued by the decision.

Likewise the fact that the decision also ordered ownership in certain property to be transferred between the former spouses could not call in question the nature of the decision as an order for the provision of maintenance; the aim was still to make provision, by means of a capital sum, for the maintenance of one of the former

that it did not consider itself bound by the separation of goods agree-ment should be read in its context for the purposes of defining the nature of the decision. On those grounds the European

The English court's statement

Court of Justice ruled: A decision rendered in divorce proceedings ordering payment of a lump sum and transfer of ownership in certain property by one party to his or her former spouse must be regarded as relating to maintenance and therefore as falling with the scope of the Brussels Convention, as amended, if its purpose was to ensure the former spouse's maintenance. The fact that in its decision the court of origin disregarded a

EC. Euratom on public access to

Commission documents (OJ 1994

L46 a58) contained two categories

of exception to the general prin-

ciple of citizens' access to Com-

mission documents, of which the

first, including the protection of the

public interest, was drafted in

mandatory terms.

Community law.

Although the secund category

(The institutions ... may also

count in that recard.

Gebäudereinigung GmbH Krankenhausservice (Lefarth GmbH. party joined)

Case C-13/95 Before G. C. Rodriguez Iglesius, President and Judges J. C. Moitinho de Almelda, J. L. Mur-ray, L. Sevon, P. J. G. Kapteyn, C. Gulmann, D. A. O. Edward, J.-P. Puissochet, G. Hirsch, P. Jann and Advocate General A. La Pergola (Opinion October 15, 199h)

Judgment March !! contract for the cleaning of his premises and entered into a new contract with another undertaking the performance of simi work, the Community directive on the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings did not apply if there was no transfer from the first undertaking to the second of

the workforce assigned to the work by the first undertaking. The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference by the Arbeitsgericht (Labour Court), Bonn, for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EC Treaty. Zehnacker, the employer of Ayse Süzen, the applicant, assigned her

significant assets or a major part of

to clearung operations in a school, Reasons for document secrecy to be given refuse access in order to protect the

institution's interest in the

also relied on by the Commission

in the present case, was in dis-

cretionary terms, the Commission

had to strike a genuine balance

between the citizen's interest in

as required by article 190 of the

obtaining access to documents and its own interest in protecting the While the Commission was not confidentiality of its deliberations. obliged to furnish, in respect of It did not appear from the each document, "imperative readecision letter of February 1995 sons" to justify the application of that the Commission had fulfilled the public interest exception and its duty to undertake a genuine thereby risk jeopardising the essential function of the exception. balancing of competing interests, and the Commission, in giving no it was required to indicate to which indication, even by reference subject matter the documents recategories of document, of its lated and particularly whether reasons for considering that the they involved inspections or indocuments in question were re-lated to a possible infringement vestigations relating to a possible procedure for intringement of proceeding, had not adequately reasons for its decision.

school contracted the cleaning of its premises to Lefarth. in proceedings by the applicant for a declaration that the notice of dismissal served on her had not brought to an end her employment relationship with Zehnacker, the Arbeitsgericht referred the ques-tion whether Council Directive 77/187/EEC of February 14, 1977 on the approximation of the laws of

under a contract between the school and Zehnacker. On the termination of that contract, Zehnacker dismissed the applicant

as cleaners at the school, and the

saleguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, businesses or parts of businesses (OJ 1977 L61 p26) applied in the circumstances. Article 1 of Directive 77/187 provides: "[l] This directive shall apply to the transfer of an undertaking, business or part of a business to another employer as a result of a legal transfer or

the member states relating to the

In its judgment the Court of Justice held: The aim of the directive was to ensure continuity of employment relationships within a business, irrespective of any change of ownership. The decisive criterion for establishing the existence of a transfer was whether the entity retained its identity, as indicated inter alia, by the fact that its operation was actually continued

While the lack of any contractual link between the transferor and transferee or, as in the present case, between two undertakings cleaning of a school, might point to the absence of a transfer in the meaning of the directive, it was not It had been held that the

directive was applicable wherever, in the context of contractual relations, there was a change in the natural or legal person who was responsible for carrying on the sess and who incurred the obligations of an employer towards employees of the undertaking.
Thus, for the directive to be

applicable, there was no need for there to be any direct contractual relationship between the transferor and the transferee the transfer might also take place in two stages, through the intermediary of a third party such as the owner

However, the transfer must relate to a stable economic entity whose activity was not limited to performing one specific works contract: Case C-48/94 Ledernes Hovedorganisation v Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening (The Times October 20, 1995; [1996] ICR 333; [1995] ECR 1-2745, paragraph 20]. The term "entity" thus referred to an organised grouping of per-sons and assets facilitating the exercise of an economic activity which pursued a specific objective.

To determine whether the conditions for the transfer of an entity were met, it was necessary to consider all the facts characterising the transaction, in particular those stated in Case 24/85 Spijkers v Gebroeders Benedik Abattoir CV [1986] ECR 1119. paragraph 13). All those circumstances were merely single factors in the overall assessment to be made and could not be considered in isolation.

The mere fact that the service provided by the old and new awardees of a contract was similar did not support the coucle an economic entity had been transferred. An entity could not be reduced to the activity entrusted to it, and its identity also emerged from other factors such as its workforce, its management staff, the way in which its work was organised its operating methods, and, where appropriate, the opera-tional resources available to it.

The mere loss of a service contract to a competitor could not therefore by itself indicate the existence of a transfer within the directive in those circumstances the service undertaking previously entrusted with the contract did not, on losing a customer, thereby cease fully to exist, and a business or part of a business belonging to it could not be considered to have been transferred to the new

awardee of the contract. Moreover, although the transfer of assets was one of the relevant criteria in deciding whether an undertaking had been transferred. the absence of such assets did not necessarily preclude the existence of such a transfer.

The national court, in assessing the facts characterising the transaction, had to take into account among other things the type of undertaking or business It followed that the degree of Luxembourg

would vary according to the activity carried on, and the production

or operating methods employed in the undertaking. Where in particular an economic entity was able, in certain sectors, tangible or intangible assets, the maintenance of its identity following the transaction could not, gically, depend on the transfer of

such assets. The factual circumstances to be taken into secount included, in addition to the degree of similarity of the activity carried on before and after the transfer and the type of business concerned, whether the majority of the employees were taken over by the new employer: Spijkers, paragraph 13.

Since in certain labour-intensive sectors a group of workers en-gaged in a joint activity on a gaged in a joint activity on a permanent basis might constitute an economic entity, it had to be recognised that such an entity was capable of maintaining its identity after it had been transferred where the new employer did not merely pursue the activity in question bu terms of their numbers and skill. of the employees specially assigned by his predecessor to that task. In those circumstances, the new

employer took over a body of assets enabling him to carry on the activities or certain activities of the transferor undertaking on a regu-It was for the national court to establish, in the light of that terpretative guidance, whether a

transfer had occurred in the mesent case. On those grounds the Court of Justice ruled:

Article I(I) of Directive 77/187 was to be interpreted as meaning that the directive did not apply to a had entrusted the cleaning of his premises to a first undertaking rminated his contract with the latter and, for the performance of similar work, entered into a new contract with a second undertak-

ing, if there was no concomitant transfer from one undertaking to the other of significant tangible or intangible assets or taking over by the new employer of a major part of the workforce, in terms of their numbers and skills, assigned by his predecessor to the performance

حكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Labour wants union role for judges

■ Labour was forced to disclose more details of its plans for trade union recognition, announcing for the first time that judges would have the final say in any disputes between employers and their workforce over recognising unions.

As Michael Heseltine accused the party of putting power back into the hands of trade unionists, Labour strategists had rapidly to flesh out its employment policy, adding detailsPages 1, 10, 19 throughout the day

Tory party members move to oust MP

Senior Conservative party members have begun moves to force Tim Smith, the MP who accepted £25,000 in cash from Mohamed Al Fayed, to stand down before the general election. Officers in his Beaconsfield constituency association are ... Pages 1, 19 consulting grassroots members...

Jurors jailed

A judge who jailed two women jurors for 30 days for contempt of court after they refused to take part in the jury's deliberations defended his decision to imprison ... Pages 1, 2, 19

Rifkind accusation

Malcolm Rifkind thrust Europe to the centre of the election campaign by accusing his European partners of trying every two or three years to "lurch in a federalist direction"....Pa<u>e</u>e 2

Murderer aged 12

Sharon Carr. Britain's youngest female murderer, was ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure after being found guilty of killing a teenage woman whenPage 5 she was 12 ...

Back on stage

The Arts Council approved twoyear itineraries for the Royal Opera and the Royal Ballet, just 16 weeks before the companies were to become homeless Page 6

Marconi bequest

The Marconi Collection of items from the earliest days of radio is to be given to the Science Museum after a U-turn by the electronics firm GEC-Marconi..... Page 6

Risks of fame

Sandie Shaw, the sixties pop star, singled out the Spice Girls when she told a university conference about the dangers of stress to

Last cavalry charge

The Army's last cavalry charge, against the Dervishes at Omdurman in 1898, is graphically described in an officer's unpublished diary which is to be auctioned in Wiltshire Page 8

Dome of delight

On paper, the Millennium Dome looks not unlike a giant whoopee cushion pierced with cocktail sticks. In reality, it will be big enough to take 13 Albert Halls, or 50,000 people Page 9

Frankfurt protests

More than 20,000 German steelworkers protested in Frankfurt against banks. They made bonfires out of bank statements and chanted: "We will not be cheated out of our jobs."...... Page 12 Travellers warned

Bank and Gaza Strip as Palestinians clashed with Israeli troops in the West Bank Page 13

The Foreign Office warned Brit-

ish travellers to avoid the West

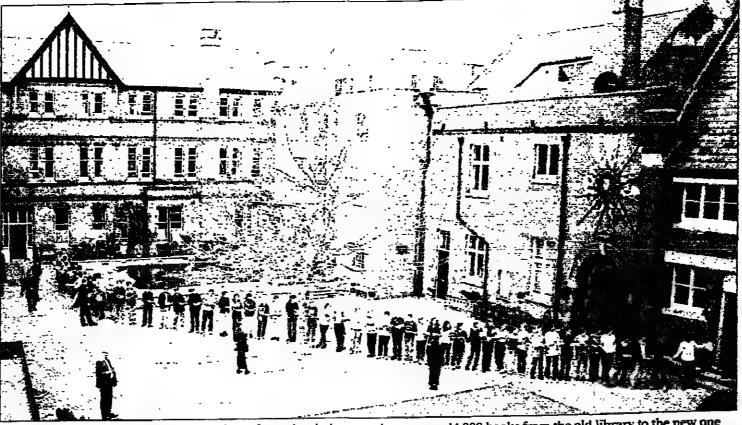
Parliament besieged The Papua New Guinea Prime Minister was smuggled out of parliament in disguise as protesters and rebel soldiers besieged the building....

Misguided battle

Marion Barry, Mayor of Washington, said that the battle to win "home rule" for the American capital 23 years ago had led to thePage 7 city's near bankruptcy Page 15

Minghella licks the Oscar opposition

■ Cones generously laced with vintage champagne were handed out to wellwishers at an ice-cream factory outside Ryde on the Isle of Wight yesterday as Edward and Gloria Minghella celebrated the Oscar success of their son Anthony. His clutch of nine for The English Patient was Britain's best



Pupils at Dean Close School, Cheltenham, formed a chain yesterday to move 14,000 books from the old library to the new one

BUSINESS

Bid victory: Prudential Corporation has won the battle for Scottish Amicable with a bid worth a total of £2.15 billionPage 27

National Savings: MPs criticised National Savings over a £50 million black hole that appeared in its accounts. They called for an accurate financial report to be submitted to the Treasury......Page 27

Greenpeace: The environmental lobby group has applied for offshore oil exploration licences, the Department of Trade .Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 55.9 points to close at 4270.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 97.4 to 98.0 after a rise from \$1.6126 to \$1.6183 and from DM2.7224 to DM2.7365.... .. Page 30

SPORT

Football: Reduced to 12 fit players. the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, drafted in new men to paper over the cracks in the squad for the match against Mexico Page 52

Racing: A series of blunders, which ended with Tony McCoy being banned from riding in the Grand National, could lead to a shake-up in medical services at British racecoursesPage 52

Goff: The selection process of the European team for this year's Ryder Cup will not be altered despite the wishes of the captain. Severiano ..Page 52

Snooker: Terry Griffiths, who had not played competitively for nearly a year, challenged strongly for a place in his nineteenth consecutive world championship...... Page 50

ARTS

Hollywood jungle: David Rabe's play Hurlyburiy, about sleazy Califorma movie folk, is so good that when a bomb scare disrupted the Old Vic action, everyone moved to the park outside

Bully for Billy: Duke Ellington's pianist Billy Strayhorn went largely unsung. A new biography re-

Rielno etar: Justin Meissner is 23 and already taking on demanding. virtuoso roles for the Royal Ballet. including the Covent Garden revival of La Bayadère......Page 39 Russian thriller: Valery Gergiev's conducting technique is so highly charged you could probably run the National Grid from his baton. Richard Morrison sees him in ac-

tion at the Barbican....... Page 40

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

BOOKS

Books for Easter

Eamon Duffy

.... Page 17 showbusiness...

but if you look closely, the process Shilling on the white suit .. Page 16

Brenda Maddox: Predictions for the next millennium have one glaring omission. What is the future of pornography?...

Poisoned planet: Dr Paul Syms is

researching how new life can be given to contaminated land so it

Global telecommunications: The

Russia's objections to Nato expan-

Valerie Grove hears how Angus Deayton won an award for Most Promising Newcomer on the fourteenth anniversary of his career in

Suilled purity: They hang on the shop rails like some perfect fruit. of decay has already begun. Jane

MEDIA & MARKETING

FOCUS

technology that will revolutionise dialling worldwide Pages 35-37

can be used for housing Page 45

THE PAPERS

sion have long been completely clear - and completely understandable. Mr Clinton is prepared to apply a variety of soothing balms to Russia's wounded pride to make expansion, if not pleasurable, at ieast tolerable - Moscow Tribune

FEATURES

STYLE

HOMES

17.55104

Preview. Two people are given a year to live. Modern Times: Time of Their Lives (BBC2 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond on a Jam trip to the Oscars Page 51

OPINON

Cheer up, Mr Brown

Surprisingly, it could be in the interests of Labour, as well as the Tories, to emphasise Britain's economic success

Czars and empires

The solution that Mr Bair online vesterday - the appointment of aranti-drugs supremu or "czar" -- to lead the "war on drugs" may ren prove to be the best ins rument for his intentionsPage 19

They the jury

Jury service should not be treated lightly. These women's actions saggest a cavalier approach to the administration of justice.... Fage 19

COLUMNS

DANIEL JOHNSON

The National Lottery was a great success - on its own terms. Eur gradually the mood turned ugy. The Lottery was Mr Major's fant mistake....

ALAN COREN

Suddenly, all manner of ravening creatures have risen from the murky depths. They want me to throw them mosey...... Page 15

RICHARD CHARTRES A group of Christian partners has vowed to rebuild St Ethelhurga's

church, destroyed by the Bishopsgate bunh, as a Centre for Reconciliation and Peace...Page 18 PETER RIDGELL The broad thrist of the British

approach to Europe may change less than the parties now pretend. Britain is still utikely to be at its heart

Missing a fixture s like a gembling

debt. You will bequicker to pay a lost bet with a friend because it is a debt of honour minum. Page 48

SIMON BARNES

OBITUTES Sir James Highgate, president. Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association: Alexander Salkind. film producer: Prof John Harris.

LETTERS

Sleaze: homosexuas in the Army:

Sunny

Sunny

Choudy

Chrizzle Drizzle

Ch Overcasi

Flain

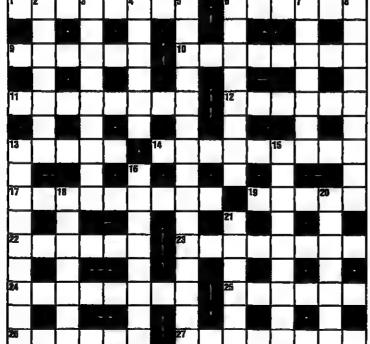
Sunny showers

🚅 Lightning

15 Temperature (Celsius)

Wind speed (mph)

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20.437



- **ACROSS**
- I Part of the WI fusses after cutting remark (8). 6 A frog, one metamorphosed into
- 9 Mixed bag in the post sale offer?

noted groom (6).

- 10 Unable to soak up the atmosphere (8).
- II Philanderer reluctant to have a port (8). 12 Odd character that is transposed
- in misspelt word (6). 13 Surviving with a bad back (5).
- 14 Accompanying notes too glib a book needs revision (9).
- 17 One soon gives new issue a bit of bite (4.5).
- 19 Money unexpectedly found in a boat, perhaps (5).
- 22 New Oriental comrade, one from Asian kingdom (6).
- 23 Relaxed face's enigmatic expression (4-4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,436



- 24 Char employed by needed drier (3.5).
- 25 Satellite channel is quiet, with
- zero backing in this country (6).
- 26 Director's less polite about his leading character (6). Mum rushed about to do up part
- of Christmas cake (8).
- 2 Amphibian in a bunch salmon
- rises to swallow (7). 3 Endlessly daring female - half-Scandinavian revolutionary (9).
- 4 Old fool joins party, almost late 5 Plant finally settled in stable

location (4,2,9).

doctrine (9).

hero (9).

- 6 Lifting jug, drop round for a sendoff (8). 7 State raised contribution from
- millionaire gladly! (7). 8 Dorothy confused about neat
- 13 Carpeting in a Times political leader one ignored (9). 15 Soldier embraces a risque Italian
- 16 Stun rhino on the rampage, circling round big rock (3-1-4). 18 Youngster keeps map showing
- where Santa lives? (7). 20 Substitute leads All Blacks meeting a town in Italy (7). 21 Leave ice out of sweet drink (6).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

AA INFORMATION Letest Road and Weather condition

UK Weather- All regions 0236 444 910 UK Roads - All regi 0336 401 410 Inside M25 M25 and Link Roads 9336 401 746

9334 407 506 The Met. Office Weather by Fax Dial 0336 followed by area: West Coursey 416 334
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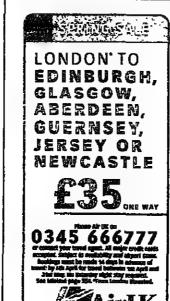
World City Weather The Nat Office 153 destir by Fex. (Index page) 0336 4[6333

Socorbing 0336 401 885 0336 401 886 0336 401 887 0336 401 882 0336 401 409

AA Car reports by fax 0336 416 399



Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first



FORECAST

General: England and Wales will have a cloudy day with outbreaks of rain. In Wales and the west the rain will be heavy at times but in the eastern half of England it will be mainly light and patchy, with some brighter interludes. There will be a lot

air will feel mild. Scotland and Northern Ireland may have a dry start in many parts but cloud will thicken, giving rain or drizzle later. Shetland and the north will turn clearer but with showers and later the clearer weather will reach the west. Winds will pick up again,

of hill and coastal tog in the west. The

with gales in the north-west ☐ London, S E England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles: some brightness but cloud thick enough at times to give some drizzle. Wind

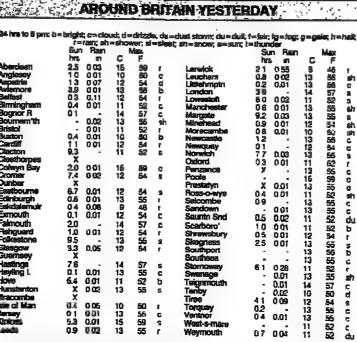
southwest moderate, fresh at times, Mild, max 14C (57F). ☐ E England, Central N England, N E England; cloudy, some brighter

spells, mainly dry, some hill fog.

Max 13C (55F) widespread nil: and coasta fog and outbreaks of rain oute mean, times. Wind southwest fresh Max

Moray Firth, Argyll: cloudy, outclearer and brighter later Wind southwest Iresh, locally strong, Max 10C-12C (50F-54F)

heavy, clearing later to brighter, showery weather. Wind southwest strong to gale, locally severe gale later. Max 7C-9C (45F-48F). Outlook: rain clearing the south;



07 004 ABROAD Corfu C'phagr Dublin Dubrove Faro Porence Frankfur Funchala Gebrava Glorava Helsinki Hong K Innebrak Innebrak Jedkiah 16 61 | 10 50 r | 17 63 1 | 18 64 s c | 11 52 1 | 21 70 s | 26 79 r | 16 61 | 14 57 f | 8 41 s | Ajacciri Alarciria Alarciria Algoreria America America Barleria Ba Munich N Delhi N York Nairobs Naples Nice Oelo Paris Peking Perth Prague Reyles Rio de Tenerita
Tokyo
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Zurich Jedoan Jo'burg Karachi L Angels L Pelmas Le Tquet Lisbon

reviewed by John Habgood, Karen Armstrong and

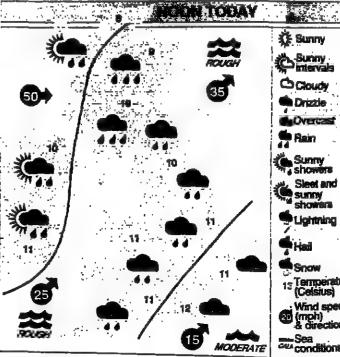
FILMS Hot from Hollywood: Geoff Brown on the week's new releases

Wind southwest impoerate to tresh ☐ S W England, S Wales, N Wales, N W England, Lake District, Isle of Man, S W Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: 5505. Add

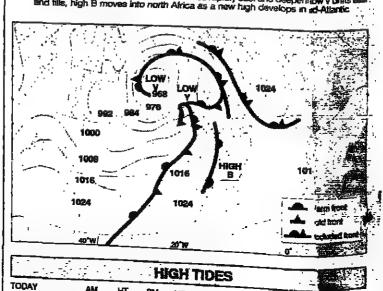
☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee Aberdeen, Central Highlands, breaks of rain or crizze becoming □ N E Scotland, N W Scotland,

becoming settled and a little cooler.

Orkney, Shetland: rain, at times



Sea . Conditions Changes to chart below from noon: low Y moves rapidity east and deepen: low V drifts stall and fills, high 9 moves into north Africa as a new high develops in ad-Atlantic



PM 15.20 14.41 20.42 12.15 20.28 19.17 12.14 12.49 16.48 13.51 13.15 HT 72 42 13 4 12 1 5 4 4 3 9 5 5 3 3 9 5 6 6 H 4 7 5 6 6 6 7 5 7 4 6 4 5 1 7 5 Cardiff
Deversipore
Deversipore
Dublin (N Wall)
Falmouth
Greenock
Harmich
Holyhead
Hull (Albert D)
thracombe All times GMT, Heights in metine HOURS OF DARKNESS

Last quarter March 31



INSIDE SECTION

TODAY



FOCUS

New technology is set to revolutionise global telecoms **PAGES 35-37**



HOMES

The professor who makes toxic land fit for people PAGE 45



SPORT

Collymore recalled by England after injury-list grows **PAGES 47-52**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

50, 51

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26 1997

National Savings criticised over £50m 'black hole'

BY ADAM JONES

AN all-party group of MPs yester-day blamed "deplorable" laxness at the National Savings arm for a £50 million accounting "black hole" and other discrepancies.

A report published by the Select Committee of Public Accounts said National Savings, which manages £57 billion, had failed to heed warnings of fundamental problems in its "seriously inadequate" finan-

cial control systems.
It said: "The agency's failure to

tackle in a timely manner the serious weaknesses identified as long ago as the mid 1980s points to a lack of competence on the part of

those managing the agency."
It added that previous heads of National Savings had "inadequately discharged" their responsibility to ensure effective financial controls.

The report also east doubt on the National Savings assertion that fraud in the organisation was tiny. Detected fraud amounted to only £14,000, in just four cases. The MPs said: "The absence of such Ifinan-

increased risk that fraud could occur and remain undetected,"

The MPs were investigating the findings of the National Audit Office (NAO), Last October the NAO said there were massive discrepancies in National Savings' 1994 accounts. Mistakes in two suspense accounts", used as clearing stations for investors' funds, led to a £50 million liability being inexplicably registered. Other discrepancies involved £12 million that should have been due from Post

Office Counters. The problems stem from a period before the arrival of Bareau, the current chief executive, who joined from the banking industry last year.

He told MPs that overall mistakes have been reduced to a net £3 million in layour of the Treasury. There was never any question of customers losing money.

A spokeswoman for National

Savings said: "We are studying the Public Accounts Committee Report. We are going to be discussing the issue with the Treasury before we give our considered response to Parliament."

The agency has said that It will complete its investigations into the discrepancies by the end of 1997. The report also said: "We are

concerned at the lack of senior finance staff with appropriate ac-countancy qualifications." National Savings is recruiting to remedy the

John Patterson, head of National Savings from 1986-1991, said it has been historically difficult to recruit senior accountancy staff on civil

service pay. He said he employed a qualified accountant as finance

Mr Patterson declined to comment on other parts of the report, which he had not seen. But he said a favourable official report on the agency had been issued in the year of his retirement.

David Butler, who retired as chief executive in 1995, declined to comment on the MPs' criticism of previous management.

Pennington, page 29

Pru wins ScotAm with offer of £2.15bn

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

PRUDENTIAL Corporation has triumphed in the bidding war for Scottish Ami-cable, the mutual life insurer, with an offer worth a total of £2.15 billion.

, Saptemb

Scotttish Amicable policy holders will share a cash-andbonus package worth more than El.5 billion.

confirmed yesterday that it would recommend the offer. worth an average £1,400 to each of its 1.1 million withprofits policyholders.

The Pru is paying £850 million from its shareholders' and policyholders' funds for the business and name of ScotAm. Of this, £600 million will be paid in cash to policyholders on completion of the deal, and a further £250 million paid in bonuses over

the life of policies. Under the terms of the offer, ScotAm policyholders will be given a further £500 million from the surplus in their own life fund. In order to smooth returns during lean stock market years. Prudentiai will lend the fund £1.3 billion for investment purposes.

The disappointed bidders, AMP and Abbey National, are now expected to turn their attention to other life insurers. although Abbey said yester-day that it had "no plans at present" to buy another life

Under the proposals, Scottish Amicable's life fund will he closed to new business, demutualised and become a subsidiary of Prudential.

A new company called Scottish Amicable Life plc will operate as a separate company selling its own products through independent financial



Davis: adding products

advisers (IFAs) and appointed

representatives (ARs). Scottish Amicable said the average payment to members would be £1,400, comprising £550 in cash from Prudentia shareholders' and policyholders' funds to compensate for the loss of membership rights; £430 as a special reversionary dential and partly from the Scottish Amicable life fund surplus; and extra payments over the lifetime of the policy from the surplus. The total amount will vary according to

policy size, type and age. Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of Prudential, said Prudential would gain exposure to the growing IFA mar-ket and add mortgage, per-sonal pension, unit-linked and iong-term care products to Prudential's portfolio.

He said the acquisition would initially dilute earnings until new business had been built up, but this would not show on the balance sheet until the interim results in 1998. Prudential share rose

15½p to 555½p. Scottish Amicable had originally planned to end its mutual status and float on the stock exchange in two or three year's time, but Abbey National made a bid, followed by Prudential and AMP.

Prudential will have funds under management totalling more than £100 billion after the merger.

Prudential has guaranteed that 1,500 employees at Scot-tish Amicable's headquarters will be retained for at least three years. The board of Scottish Amicable, which was criticised for constructing a generous share benefit scheme under the original demutualisation plans, will be eligible for Prudential's long-term incentive scheme if they become

Sir Peter said that the Prudential was considering incorporating Scottish Amicable's investment management division, based in Glasgow, into its international network of fund management centres, although the matter was "still under discussion". It employs 280 staff.

The proposals will be subfect to a 75 per cent vote in favour by members at a special general meeting in June, and the deal is likely to be completed in the autumn.

Pennington, page 29



Oliver Whitehead, chief executive of Alfred McAlpine, reflects yesterday on the company's return to the black with profits of £9.4 million last year

Quarter-point rise for US rates

AMERICAN interest rates were raised by a quarter point yesterday, the first touch on the monetary brakes by the US Federal Reserve for more

than two years. The Federal Open Market Committee, which met yes-terday, lifted its key Federal Funds rate by 0.25 per cent to 5.50 per cent but left the

discount rate unchanged at 5 per cent.

The Fed, which has not changed monetary policy since January 1996, when it cut rates by a quarter point, said it had decided to raise rates in light of persisting

Stores line up in

Littlewoods sale

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

ABOUT a dozen retailers, including the

main supermarket groups, are believed

tlewoods' chain of 135 high street stores. Sales memoranda were sent out last week by BZW. Littlewood's advisers, and

potential buyers are expected to come

back with firm offers in about six weeks,

market sources say. Littlewoods is expect-

Property companies have been ex-

cluded from the bidding, the sources say, but retailers, including Asda.

Tesco. J Sainsbury and Saleway have

been sent a copy of the detailed

memorandum. Stores groups including

Kingfisher. Marks & Spencer. Store-

house and Next are also believed to be

in the running. However, none is under

So far, only companies willing to bid

alone have been included but some

property companies are believed to be

keen to join consortia.

any obligation to proceed with a bid.

ed to raise more than £500 million.

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR strength in the economy. The rate rise was a "prudent step" aimed at extending the economic expansion and emphasised the importance of maintaining low inflation for the overall health of the

The decision was widely expected but shares were still somewhat volatile in the immediate aftermath. Just before the news, the Dow Jones industrial average had been quoted about 15 points higher. In the minutes after the decision was announced, it rallied to a gain of about 40 as investors expressed relief that

the Fed had not announced a more aggressive rise in rates. But then the Dow turned lower again to record a loss of

about ten points. European stock and bond markets had rallied in advance of the news, cheered by Wall Street's resilience this week despite widespread expectations that American rates

would go up.
The FT-SE 100 index finished 55.9 points higher at 4,270.7, recovering some of the 209 points lost over the previous six sessions, and reacting to Wall Street's 100-point recovery on Monday. As the London market closed, the Dow Jones industrial average

was quoted 28 points higher. The Fed's move had aiready been priced into stock market levels after Alan Greenspan the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, all but confirmed to the Joint Economic Committee of Congress the Fed would raise rates, when he he emphasised the strength of the American economy and the importance of acting pre-emptively to head off inflationary pressures.

Leading article, page 19 Keynes, the prodigal, page 3)

Oftel orders cut in cost of calls to mobile phones

By ERIC REGULY

THE cost of making calls to mobile a fixed BT telephone. The cost now phones is too expensive and should come down by about 30 per cent. Don Cruickshank, the Director-General of Telecommunications, said yesterday.

He gave British Telecom and Vodafone and Cellnet, the two largest mobile phone companies, a year to cut the charges to levels that more realistically reflect their true costs. Mr Cruickshank said: "My firm view is that prices are too high, so the industry can act or I will."

Vodafone, operator of the largest mobile phone network, agreed to reduce its charges but said that it had hoped to do so over the next three or four years. "But if Oftel wants us to do it sooner, that's okay with us," a spokesman said.

Oftel's comments were triggered by complaints from consumers and businesses about the relatively high cost of making calls to mobile telephones from

exceeds the price of making fixed-line calls to New York.

BT charges its retail customers 32p per minute to call a Vodafone or Cellinet mobile phone. About three quarters of this amount is paid to the mobile phone companies to deliver calls to their customers; BT keeps ther rest. Mr Cruickshank said: "In my view, the average retail rate to call a mobile network from a BT phone might come down by about another 10p per minute."

BT and the mobile phone companies will now have to negotiate lower interconnection charges with each other, allowing the retail prices to fall. Vodafone and Cellnet, which is 60 per cent owned by BT. have been using the high call charges to help subsidise handset prices. Almost seven million handsets are in use in the United Kingdom.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET

Brent 15-day (Jun) \$19.75 (\$19.80)

London closs..... \$349.16 (\$380.50)

Reversing

Rover, the carmaker now owned by BMW, suffered losses of DM279 million last million in 1995. John Major nevertheless praised the success of the British motor industry during a visit to the West Midlands.

Shattering

A profits warning from Pilkington, the glass group, sent the shares down to their lowest level for more than three years. Forecasts were cut from £175 million to £130 Page 33, Tempus 30

FAIRLINE BOXTS - AVON - EISMANN - RE COMPONENTS - WEET

Back in black

ALFRED McAlpine, the con-

struction group, returned to profit in 1996, earning £9.4

million before tax compared

with losses of £23.5 million in

1995. Turnover fell to £593.6

million from £757.26 million.

Earnings were 10p a share

(37.2p loss). The dividend is

held at 7p, with a 4p final.

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VOIX - CHEVER - COLDEN WONDER - OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Greenpeace oils the wheels of conservation Brent Spar, has invested £3,000 in a fuel use. In a letter to Mr Lang, the ... with due regard to environmental tion". A Greenpeace delegation met

By CARL MORTISHED

GREENPEACE has decided to take on the oil companies by making an application for the entire 22,000 sq miles in the Government's 17th oil

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH

licensing round. The environmental group, which infuriated the oil industry with its campaign against the dumping of the

formal application to lan Lung. President of the Board of Trade.for all 25 blocks. The licences are normally awarded to oil companies for exploration purposes but, instead of drilling wells. Greenpeace proposes to count whales and dolphins Greenpeace said the move was part of its campaign to limit fossil

organisation states that it wishes to be considered "operator and guardian of the licence area", located mainly in the Atlantic Frontier, west of the Shetlands. The letter requests the Government to honour its commitment to the UN climate convention by granting Greenpeace a "production licence for non-interven-

Department of Energy officials yesterday to present detailed proposals. A spokesman for the group said the officials seemed bemused but invited them for further consultations. The government's criteria for awarding

licences is "the need for expeditious, thorough efficient and safe exploration to identify oil and gas resources of fossil fuels."

cation hinges on the last point. The oil industry was not amused; a spokesman for the Offshore Operators Association said: "Whatever Greenpeace might believe, life today and the expectations of consumers depend on the adequate availability

considerations". Greenpeace's appli-

Deutsche Bank confirmed Sir John Craven is to retire as chairman of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, its investment bank-

ing arm. at the end of June. The German bank, which is expected to report 1996 net profits of DM2.2 billion today. up from DM2.1 billion in 1995. will also confirm that the cost of bailing out Morgan Grenfell and compensating up to 90,000 unit trust investors after the Peter Young affair is about £380 million. Compensation payments are due to be made shortly. Morgan Grenfell is braced for a fine by Imro, the City watchdog, that could top

Sir John is to join the international advisory board of Deutsche Bank. Today, he becomes non-executive chairman of Lonhro, the international trading conglomerate.

FBD ahead

FBD Holdings, the farm insurer in the Republic of Ireland, increased pre-tax profits 5 per cent to Ir£l4 million last year. Earnings increased 5.6 per cent to Ir28p a share. The final dividend is 4.35p, lifting the total 14 per cent to 7.7p.

Bardon slips

Bardon, the quarrying and aggregates group, suffered a 4 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £23.4 million (£24.3 million) last year. Earnings dropped to 2.4p (2.5p) a share. A final dividend of 1.2p, due on July 11. holds the total at 2p.

TOURIST RATES

Deutsche chief set to retire

Japanese prosecutors raid Nomura offices



Investigators on their way to the offices of Nomura, which is suspected of passing on money to extortionists resigned as president on March 14.

FROM ROBERT WHIMANT IN TORYO

JAPANESE prosecutors raided Nomura Securities vesterday on suspicion that Japan's niggest stockbroker funnelled profits from illegal stock deals to extortionists

The raid was carried out by a combined team from the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office and the Securities Exchange Surveillance (ommission (SEC) Lp to ISO officials were involved in raids on Nomura's Jokyo head office and ten other

Prosecutors have questioned two Nomura managing directors for allegedly giving preferential treatment to a akawa, a type of racketeer who specialises in extorting cash from firms by threatening to reveal their dubious practices.

Investigators are focusing on transactions in March 1995, when the two executives allegedly passed on 35 million yen (£190,000) in profits from stock deals to a property firm owned by the brother of a prominent sokaira.

The Securities and Exchange Law hanned stockbrokers from conducting discretionary stock transactions after a [44] scandal.

Investigators also searched the homes of Hideo Sakamaki, the com-pany's former president, and Masashi Suzuki, his successor, Mr Sakamaki

industry was dead. Today it is

a thriving, growing, successful

industry with massive exports.

It's a huge success story

because we changed the trade

union legislation and the tax

structure, and because we've

improved industrial relations.

see that this is one of the best

countries to invest in, and

there's been a huge amount of it coming in from abroad. We

Mr Major said Rover could

be badly hit if Britain takes the wrong decision on monetary union. If Britain does not join

because the euro turns out to

be a weak currency, then the

sterling exchange rate could

be forced up. He said: "Would

that matter? Well go down the

road to Rover and ask them if

they would sell their cars if

they had an artificially high

rate of sterling."

need to protect that."

People round the world can

Takeover bid likely at Country Casuals

MARK BUNCE, chief executive of Country Casuals, may launch a takeover bid for the troubled clothing retailer, the company revealed yesterday. It is the second time in little more than a year that Country Casuals has been the target of a takeover bid from one of its founding directors. The company beat off an offer of £26.8 million from John Shannon, a former chief executive of the company, at the end of 1995, Mt Bunce and his wife Christina, who is commercial director, are the largest single shareholders in the company with a 10 per cent stake. They are believed to be talking to financial backers with a bid expected in excess of the 140p offered by Mr Shannon. Mr Bunce also holds a 5.9 per cent stake. curcently valued at £12 million, in Oasis, which the management

team at Country Casuals helped to rescue from receivership. Shares in Country Casuals rose 7½p to 102½p. The shares have slumped in the past-six months after two profit warnings. Country Casuals said it would continue with its plans to sell the loss-making Elvi out-size fashion chain and the Lerose clothes-making business, which were put on the market earlier this year. Mr Bunce and his wife will not take part in the evaluation of offers for the two businesses.

Scholl works on US link

SCHOLL, the footware and footcare company, said yesterday that it is forging closer links with Scholl's North American operations, which are owned by Schering-Plough, the US pharmaceuticals group. The company hopes for a formal alliance. Scholl reported a pre-tax profit before exceptional items of £20.0 million, on turnover of £212 milion, up 2.3 per cent. in the year to December 31. After a £35.7 million charge, the pre-tax loss was £15.1 million (£17 million profit). A 4.7p final dividend makes a 7.7p total, up 10 per cent.

Rea payout is held

REA BROTHERS, the banking and financial services group, is holding its final dividend at 0.5p, due on May 9, to give an unchanged annual payout of Ip in spite of a 35 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £1.8 million. Sir Hugh Cubitt, chairman. said that funds under management rose to E948 million, from a E706 million, in 1995 and that Finsbury Asset Management was now fully integrated with the group's investment. management arm. Earnings per share rose to 2.5%, from 2.05p, although dealing profits fell to £413.000, from £607,000.

Pension warning

JOHN HAYES, chairman of the new statutory Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority (Opra), yesterday published guidance for pension scheme actuaries and auditors on their "whistleblowing" duties when the 1995 Pensions Act takes effect on April 6. The new pensions watchdog gave warning it that "apparently minor issues may be symptomatic of deeper." problems" and he added that "dishonesty and deliberate disregard of the legislation remain a top priority for investigation and punishment by Opra" .-

IRG expects upturn

INDEPENDENT RADIO GROUP, the owner of six commercial radio stations, including Scot FM in Central Scotland and 1458 Lite AM in Manchester, said it expects to break even this year and make a profit in 1998. The company, which floated on the Alternative Investment Market in 1995, reported a pre-taxloss of £3 million in the 16 months to December 31, on turnover of £2.3 million. The loss before exceptional items was £1.4 million. Independent, which has £4.4 million in cash, intends to bid for several new radio licences this year.

Major praise for British motor industry as Rover cuts losses

By OLIVER AUGUST

gines for small aircraft, BMW

reduced pre-tax losses before

exceptionals by DM25 million

to DM627 million, while sales

rose to DM217 million from

lion "black hole", which came

Peter Baillie, BZW spokes-

man, said: "Senior manage-

ment in BZW's market

division and its independent

risk management function

to light last month.

ROVER, the German-owned auto manufacturer, incurred losses of DM279 million last year, compared to DM335 million in 1995, BMW, its parent company, reported yesterday. But John Major, nevertheless, praised the success of the British motor industry during a visit to the West

BY ROBERT MILLER

BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BZW, the investment banking

arm of Barclays, made a loss of

£11.5 million in July 1996 after a

hedged trading position in the

in 1994, is pumping billions of marks into the company in the hope of seeing it turn a profit by 2000. In 1996 BMW invest-ed DM1.2 billion in Rover and plans another DM1.5 billion of investment this year.

billion from DM13 billion. The German motor com- ture will continue its developpany also co-operates with

understood to have used the

Two members of BZW's

derivatives department. Paul

Ellis and Paul Doust, left by

mutual consent shortly after

the incident. City observers

were quick to draw compari-

bank's own funds.

DM112 million. Rover's sales rose to DM 15.2 Bernd Pischetsrieder, BMW chairman, said the joint ven-

Rolls-Royce to huild jet enengines while increasing production facilities Rolls-Royce, the joint venture. Despite its foreign owner-

ship. Mr Major used the example of Rover to show that in the last 20 years there had been an "absolute revolution" in the British motor industry.

The Prime Minister said: "In the 1970s the British motor car industry was a basket case ment work on the BR700

... people thought the motor BZW lost £11.5m on hedged position

> versely affected by an unanticipated and rapid movement in the currency markets. Management had been fully aware the position and acted within minutes ... to reduce the position risk."

> > Pennington, page 29



ROBECO GROUP

ROBECO N.V.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **OF SHAREHOLDERS** to be held on Friday, 25th April, 1997, at Concert and Congress

(investment company with a variable capital)

building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 9.30 **AGENDA**

1. Opening

2. To receive and adopt the Report

3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year

4. To determine the appropriation of

5. To determine the remuneration of Supervisory Directors

. To compose the Supervisory Board 7. Any other business

of the Management Board for the financial year 1996 . To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 4. To determine the appropriation of

5. To determine the remuneration of

. To receive and adopt the Report

Supervisory Directors

b. To compose the Supervisory Board

7. Any other business Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Reports for 1996 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, c/o Natwest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London ECCM 3UR or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London WIY 5AE, Telephone:

Holders of Bearer Share Certificates desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting, should lodge their Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted for voting purposes) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NarWest Investments Counter, c/o Narwest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR (between the hours of 10 am and 2 p.m.) in exchange for a receipt, not later than Friday, 18th April, 1997.

Beneficial owners whose Bearer Share Certificates are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Certificates. The Certificate of Deposit must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC,

in accordance with the requirements stated above. The receipt for Bearer Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a shareholder's entitlement to artend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the Amend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be contained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Bearer Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-share Certificates registered in the name of Nationa Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting must obtain a receipt or Certificate of Deposit in the same way as holders of Bearer Share Certificates. If they desire to a mend the same way as nowers of nearer share Certificates. If they desire to attend
the Meeting in person or to be represented they must obtain a form of proxy
signed by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, which form must
be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt
exchanged for the Sub-share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-shares registered in any name other than that of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, holders of Registered Full Shares and Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company wishing to attend and vote at the Meeting or to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary of Robeco N.V. or Rolinco N.V. (whichever is applicable), Coolsingel 120, NL-3011 AG Rotterdam, Netherlands to arrive not later.

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association. BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT

ROTTERDAM

Dated this 26th day of March, 1997.

ROLINCO N.V. RORENTO N.V.

> INFORMATIVE MEETING FOR SHAREHOLDERS to be held on Friday, 25th April, to be held on Friday, 25th April. 1997, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 11.45 1997, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 14.30

AGENDA

OF SHAREHOLDERS

(investment company with a variable capital)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA 1. Opening . To discuss the Report of the

Management Board for the financial year 1996

). To discuss the Annual Accounts

(registered in Philipsburg, St. Maarten, Netberlands Antilles)

To discuss the appropriation of the profit

3. To discuss the remuneration of

Supervisory Directors

To discuss the composit

To discuss the composition of the

Management Board

To discuss a proposal to alter the Articles of Association). Any other business

RORENTO N.V.

(registered in Philipsburg, St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Monday, 28th April, 1997, at the offices of Robeco Astrillen N.V., Kaya Wilson Papa Godett 24, Willemstad, Curação len N.V., Kaya Wilson Papa (Netherlands Antilles), at 1939 hours AGENDA

1. Opening

2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1996

. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year

4. To determine the appropriation of

i. To determine the remuneration of

Supervisory Directors . To compose the Supervisory Board

7. To compose the Management

8. To receive and adopt a proposal to alter the Articles of Association 9. Any other business

Holders of Bearer Share Certificates desirous of attending or being represented at the above stated Meetings, should lodge their Share Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, clo Natwest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopspate, London ECZM 3UR (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) as follows: INFORMATIVE MEETING - NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY, 18TH APRIL, 1997. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NOT LATER THAN MONDAY, 21ST APRIL, 1997, IN EXCHANGE FOR A RECEIPT.

Beneficial owners whose Bearer Share Certificates are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is bolding the Share Certificates. This Certificate must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminst Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a shareholder's entitlement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presen ut the door of the Meeting Ffall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, was need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company, Starenowers who institute or both Meetings or to appoint a proxy in their wishing to attend entire or both recentlys or to appoint a proxy in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary, Rorento N.V. cookinged 120, NL-3011 AG Rosterdam. Netherlands to arrive not later than the dates indicated above.

Although proxies may attend, votes will not be east at the Informative

Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Report for 1996 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC at the address shown above or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE.

Tel: 3171-459 3567

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association. BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT PHILIPSBURG

Dated this 26th day of March 1997.



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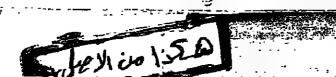
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☐ Complex numbers behind Scottish Amicable deal ☐ National Savings that don't add up ☐ BZW drops a clanger

Secretive to the end

☐ HERE they come — dragged stumbling into the spotlight, blinking behind their hornrimmed glasses — that largely unknown bunch of Scottish accountants, and secretive to the last. When Scottish Amicable first revealed plans to go public, the trouble was that no one, not even hardened insurance analysts, could understand them.

To ordinary members, the with-profit policyholders, not up with embedded values, reversionary bonuses and all the rest, the document outlining those proposals was gibberish, so it was as well that document became history even as it was printing, as a bidding war broke out for the business. The Prudential has now emerged from a three-sided scrap with the prize. Just why, we do not yet know, and this is important.

The curious thing about reputations in insurance is that they lag behind events. The Pru's is still badly tarred by the mis-selling scandal, even if a rep-etition of such abysmal be-haviour seems unthinkable. The appeal of ScotAm, with a respectable name that does not yet reflect years of relative underperformance against the competition, is obvious.

As we all become more sophisticated, we take advice about financial products and pay for it rather than go automatically to the heavy advertisers. Hence the growth of independent financial advisers who take a cut for

pointing us towards the right policy. Such IFAs are about as likely to pass a Pru policy across the table as they are a not-toorecently deceased cat, but ScotAm snil, rightly or wrongly. has a bit of cachet. As ever in a takeover deal, the

buyer must emphasise how little is being paid and the seller how much. The awful complexity of this one makes this tightrope walk easier. The Pru is handing over £850 million clean, £600 million in cash and the rest as a special bonus added to the value of existing policies. There is a £1.3 billion loan to the ScotAm's life fund, at the normal commercial rate. This more than balances the exit of the fund's £500 million surplus, which comes out as payments to policyholders at the end of their policies.

The board at ScotAm are doing rather well, it seems. Under the Pru's original plans, and perhaps with AMP as well, would have walked the plank. As it is they are even for Pru executives sufficiently generous to attract criticism last year, wrongly perhaps, from the

Such a cosy outcome should have ScotAm voters looking very seriously before the June vote at the terms from AMP and the Abbey National turned down in favour of the Pru. These, we are told, are not quite ready for

publication yet. Hmm. There was an air vesterday of a deal already done, one of those takeover bids already with the blessing of 50 per cent-plus of shareholders' votes. Not so. ScotAm policyholders, you have a vote - use it.

Cornering rats at the PAC

COMMITTEE rooms at the House of Commons are designed to maximise the discomfort of those lost souls appearing before MPs. The "witnesses", a term synonymous with defendant. huddle together like terrified rodents behind an undersized desk, while the MPs surround

PENNINGTON



couraging displays of chest-beat-ing from politicians. But sometimes the situation justifies it, such as when the top brass at National Savings, the Government's savings arm, appeared before the Select Committee of Public Accounts

Tens of millions of pounds were "misplaced" in various National Savings internal accounts, auditors found last year. A E50 million deficit topped the list of "black holes" — the phrase of the month, it seems, Given the political sensitivity

of National Savings - custodian of the nest eggs of millions of pensioners and other vulnerable have been in attack-dog mode. Yet they were strangely civil on the day, placated by an authoritative performance from Peter Bareau, the chief executive who arrived from the banking sector last year and is convincing in his efforts to clear up the mess left by his predecessors.

The MPs have since recovered some of their bite. The written report on the matter "deplores" the slackness in financial controls. With memorable understatement, they declare themselves concerned at the lack of senior finance staff with appropriate accountancy qualifications". In other words, they couldn't add up.

Why would they need to? After all, by the end of 1995-96, National Savings was managing only a trifling E57 billion. It all points to a "lack of competence" on the part of those running the agency in the past, the committee concludes. Culture of incompetence, more like.

A shame that previous chief executives such as David Butler and John Patterson were not forced to huddle before MPs instead. Too fate for that. Mr

Butler, by the way, is now at the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. Nice to know the Establishment

When the big brains blunder

looks after its own.

HERE we go hunting black holes in the spring (again). There has been a story floating around the City for a week or more now that Someone, Somewhere has Blundered. One of the securities houses has taken a huge position and watched, hornified, the market going the wrong way, or so says the scuttlebutt in the low dives that traders frequent.

Let us therefore hope that the rumours referred to Barciays de Zoete Wedd, because nobody really enjoys these black hole stories, do they? BZW lost £11.5 million last summer after having to hedge against some unwise currency positions taken by a couple of big brains, now departed. The good news is there was no mispricing, unlike at the NatWest and its £90 million loss management were on to it, and

someone up the chain could by some miracle follow what the big brains had been up to. Hey, you win some, you lose some.

Up to a point. It is true that there is a spectrum of loss between dropping £90 million on barely understood derivatives and £90 at the 3.30 at Kempton Park, and somewhere on that spectrum a normal trading loss turns into a black hole. In the current climate we are all too inclined to describe the former as the latter. But £11.5 million is an awful lot to lose in the course of

normal share dealing. It is, however, the nature of such options and derivatives that subsequent losses can be so huge as to be easily audible above the normal chatter and hum of a typical trading business.

Kindest cut of all

A BREAKTHROUGH for the next Chancellor from the Royal Economic Society's annual conference, which paved the way for a massive but painless spending cut. Hard to believe as they walk through the door, but a third of all graduates are over-educated, it seems: even after six years in work, their jobs need mere O or A levels. So slice off the tail of less able students and you save a third of the higher education budget as well as a lot of personal frustration. Or not.

Chelsfield aims for hotel float

Chelsfield, the property group, plans to float off its hotel and leisure interests.

The group yesterday raised £62 million in a placing of 20 million shares at 317p to buy the London and New York Westbury hotels from Granada. It is buying the London hotel freehold from AMP for E30 million. It is expected to package the hotels with its Went-

worth leisure business. Cheisfield's net asset value rose 22 per cent last year, to 225.6p. Profits grew from £10.6 million to £14.4 million. The year's dividend rises 9 per cent, to 3p.

Hunting aim

group, has ruled out merger amid restructuring in European aerospace. Pretax 1996 profits fell to £6.8 after write-offs in the aviation unit. Profits before exceptionals were £44.4 million (£38.1 million). The annual dividend stays op.

Clansman off

Macfariane Group (Clansman), the packaging com-pany, had a 3.8 per cent fall in pre-tax profits, to E20.4 million, in 1996, after a slowdown in orders from whisky companies. Earnings per share fell 5.4 per cent, to 11.4p, but the dividend rises from 3.9p to 4.095p, with a final 2.625p.

Burn better

Burn Stewart Distillers sees signs that whisky's pricing environment is improving. Profits reached £1.8 million in the half year to December 31, up from a £900,000 loss. The interim dividend remains 1.7p.

Hodder up

Hodder Headline, the publisher, lifted pre-tax profits 16 per cent. to £6.6 million, in 1996. Earnings per share were 13.3p (13.1p). A final dividend of 4.5p (same) makes 6.5p (same).

Kier ahead

Kier, the construction company, saw pre-tax profit rise to £3 million, from £2.75 million, in the half year to December 31. Kier pays no interim dividend.

Insurer hit

Losses by its Irish National Insurance Company, now sold, halved 1996 pre-tax profits of New Ireland Holdings to IrE5 million. A Irl3,89p final dividend makes Iri8.56 (Iri6.86p).

Tunnel fire may add £60m to P&O revenues By Fraser Nelson

THE fire in the Channel Tunnel last November has left a profitable legacy for P&O. the shipping to property con-glomerate, which could gain up to £60 million in extra revenue this year because of the disaster, according to

Channel freight business has been crippled since the opening of the Channel Tunnel, is expected to claw back some £40 million in cargo alone until the tunnel is given the ail-clear by safety inspectors.

No lorry has been able to use the tunnel since the fire months ago, and

not due to reopen until May. As P&O returned its 1996 results yesterday, analysts said that it was on course to take the lion's share of the £100 million revenue understood to be generated by Eurotunnel's freight business each year. As ferries can carry the capacity with minimal extra expenses, a substantial amount of the extra revenue will translate

straight into profit. However, analysts said that the boost was only a shortterm honeymoon which will last until Eurotunnel's freight trains start again. One said: chance of staying in profit: Eurotunnel doesn't.

Competition from the Chan-

Eurotunnel's freight service is

nel Tunnel in the first 11 months of 1996 forced operating profits at P&O's ferry division down to £41 million (£74 million). Operating profits at its containers division fell to £30.3 million (£40.1 million). However, the company surprised the City by returning an increase in group profits for 1996, against the slump that was widely expected. Overall, pre-tax profits grew to £333 million (£320 million) and earnings to 40.1p (37.8p) a share. The dividend is

due on June 10. Its cruising division delivered the strongest growth. The conglomerate was also lifted by a £124 million profit from its disposals, and a 54 per cent rise in profits from property

frozen at 30.5p with a final 17p.

Lord Sterling, chairman, said the company had tackled its two problem areas head on: the container division. by putting it into a joint venture with Nedlloyd, and the ferries division, with a proposed merger with rival Stena.

Even if the merger is blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, he said. P&O would remain the dominant player in the channel ferry market.

He said: "We are the most powerful group with the best ships. There may be some blood on the carpet but in the end there would be one domimant ferry group." He added that it would be "extremely surprising" if the proposed merger were rejected. A decision is not expeted until after the election. P&O shares rose up to 63412 p yesterday.

Tempus, page 30

Mis-selling pledge from life insurer

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

LONDON & Manchester, the life insurer and pensions company, has promised to resolve the 6,000 cases of ing within the next year.

Tom Pyne, group chief executive, made the pledge as the company reported its annual results, but he admitted that only 75 people had so far been compensated, even though £32 million had been set aside for the purpose.
Trustees of company

schemes were "overwhelmed" by the requirements of the Pensions Act and had not provided information on former members. he said.

Earnings per share rose 1.25p to 37.85p. A 13.69p final will be paid on June 12, making 20.29p (18.7p).

SkyePharma sees \$5bn drug sales

By PAUL DURMAN

SKYEPHARMA, the drug Gowrie-Smith. Medeva's founder, claimed that its "black box" of drugs in development was expected to have sales of more than \$5 billion.

Mr Gowrie-Smith said the level of sales expected by client companies had doubled since last year's purchase of Jago, the Swiss company that is an expert in controlling the release of active compounds in drugs.

Mr Gowrie-Smith said the \$5 billion estimate was not a "blue sky" forecast, but was conservatively based, taking account of the probability of success of the 11 projects in Jago's black box. Most of these involve improving existing drugs, and consequently carry less risk than developing totally new products. However, the first of these sales will not be

made before next year, and

will not accelerate until 1999. SkyePharma yesterday re-vealed the second of the black box projects. Jago is working with Intercardia of the US to develop a once-daily formulation of a beta-blocker intended to be used to treat congestive heart failure. SkyePharma said the drug could have annual sales of \$400 million.

The other Jago project announced is an asthma drug being developed by Abbott Laboratories of the US. SkyePharma also reported

losses of Ell.7 million for the 17 months to December 31. Comparisons with 1995, when the company lost £9.8 million, are obscured by the series of deals that have transformed the group from its origins as Black & Edgington, the marquee tent company. Skye-Pharma ended 1996 with net cash of £19.3 million.

Bell paid £544,000 at Chime

By JASON NISSÉ

SIR Tim Bell, who advises the Conservative Party on its election strategy, was paid £544,000 last year as chairman of Chime Communications, the quoted PR group. His remuneration package is in addition to £90,000 of dividends paid on his 10.1 per cent

stake in the group. Chime's operating prof its rose a fifth to £3.04 million in the year ended December 31. Pre-tax profits climbed to £3.72 million (£2.5 million). Earnings per share rose from 2.8p to 3.4p and a 1.15p dividend. payable on June 26, makes

p, up 20 per cent. Chime is looking to make a substantial acquisition of "another well known communications brand".

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The company, whose cross-**Taylor Woodrow**



Colin Parsons, chairman, says confidence remains high

TAYLOR WOODROW, the housebuilding and construction group, has named John Castle, the former managing director of Marley, as the man to replace Tony Palmer as chief executive.

According to contemporary reports, Mr Castle left Marley in early 1993 after being passed over in favour of David Trapnell for the post of chief executive of the building materials group. Yesterday, how-ever. Colin Parsons. Taylor Woodrow's executive chairman, said he had been told that Mr Castle left Marley because he did not want the job.

Mr Castle will take over from Mr Palmer, who is retiring in June after 43 years with the group.

Taylor Woodrow was reporting a 45 per cent rise in annual pre-tax profits to £66.8 million, on sales little changed at £1.19 billion. The improve-

ment was led by the housing arm, which increased profits

Mr Parsons said the group had seen no sign of the election damaging confidence among purchasers. He added: "We about the effect of a rise in interest rates. Buyers are also going up while they are trying to buy houses. It's a very

The group's construction arm remained the largest busi-

40 per cent to C32.8 million. Sales were strong in the UK. US and Canada, and house sales ruse 24 per cent to 3.957.

are much more apprehensive concerned about seeing prices uncomfortable feeling."

ness, even though turnover fell 10 per cent to £562 million. However, Taylor Woodrow made a profit of only £100,000 from construction and again lost money in the UK market. A final dividend of 275p is

due on July 1. This will lift the total to 3.75p, up 25 per cent.

makes a full-year payout of 9p (8.1p). Trade this year should be aided by the and the Far East in the second half.

Hamleys hopes for film boost

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

HAMLEYS, the toy retailer, is putting its faith in Star Wars to revive the toy market this year. Howard Dyer, chairman, said that Hamleys, in just two days last week, sold out of the Star Wars version of the Monopoly board game, faunched to coincide with the re-release of the 20-year-old film. It sold 332 in all and took orders for when more arrive.

Mr Dyer believes that this bodes well for other Star Wars goods starting to appear in its Regent Street store and in its smaller outlets and airport shops. Monopoly's manufacturer. Wadding-

ton Games, part of America's Hasbro. said that the new version of the game has now sold out all over the country. The bad news for those who have put in orders for the game - which has Dagobah Swamp in place of the Old Kent Road and the Imperial Palace in place of Mayfair - is that no more will be

available here until Christmas. Mr Dyer confirmed that the toy market in the second half of last year, including the usually frantic Christmas period, was strangely flat. He said: "Two companies outperformed the market. We did marginally and Woolworths did very well." The fact that many retailers quickly sold out of the Christmas favourite, Buzz Lightyear, and could not restock did not help sales figures, he said.

The end result for Hamleys in the year to February 1 was a 5 per cent rise in likefor-like sales and a rise in pre-tax profit to £6.9 million, from £6.38 million, Earnings per share rose from 19.3p to 19.9p. A final dividend of 6p (5.4p), due on June 5.

opening of up to 50 House of Toys concessions in Debenhams. The concessions in House of Fraser stores are being closed. Hamleys is to seek more sites in Europe



Share prices bounce back to end six-day run of falls

SHARE prices shrugged off the prospect of an imminent rise in US interest rates and bounced back, ending a run of six consecutive days of falls.

Cheered by the overnight strength of Wall Street that saw the Dow Jones industrial average climb 100 points, the FTSE-100 index raced ahead to close just below its best of the day with a leap of 55.9 points to 4,270.7.

Brokers now seemed resigned to the idea that US interest rates will rise a quarter point and say that most of this has already been factored into the price.

Short covering was also evident after the recent falls, which have also been generated by political uncertainty in the run-up to the general elec-tion on May I. By the close of business, a total of 971 million shares had changed liands.

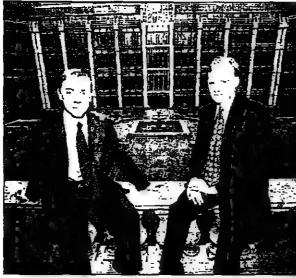
interest-rate sensitive stocks such as the banks were back in fashion after a shaky few weeks. Bardays Bank closed Zip dearer at £10.16's after recommendations from HSBC James Capel and Dresdner Kleinwort Benson. Capel also likes Lloyds TSB, up 28½p at 482½p. Abbey National, 2lp higher at 735½p, and Bank of Scotland, 612 p dearer at 320p.

Another burst of speculative Union sharply higher. The price closed below its best, but managed a rise of 314p at 671 ap as turnover reached 3.74 million. CU was linked before Christmas to BAT Industries, up 19p at 528p, but the talks are believed to have broken down.

Daigety, up 112p at 3372p. is now seen as a potential takeover target for Associated British Foods. 360 firmer at 559p. AB Foods has just sold its Irish retail interests to Tesco for £600 million plus.

There was the distinct waft of burnt fingers among the speculators after Pilkington issued a profits warning, blaming dull markets in Europe and the falling price of float glass. Brokers had been looking for pre-tax profits of £178 million, but now that figure is expected to be as low as £130 million. Further restructuring is now planned, which will stretch costs by a further £20 million a year over the next few Years. The shares closed 7½ n lower at 121p.

recorded in British Steel as the price eased 3p to 1584 p. It



Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, left, and Andrew Buxton, chairman, saw the share price rise

follows the decision of Krupps to drop its bid for Thyssen and Pilkington's concern over weak European markets. By the close 54.8 million shares had traded. Redland with significant interests in Europe also fell 54 p to 3514 p.

United News & Media rose 13p to 75412p as NatWest Securities, the broker, upgraded its recommendation from

full demerger of its Bovis Homes business. News of another bid approach lifted Country Casuals, the troubled womens' clothing retailer, 712p to 10212p. Mark Bunce, chief executive, is in talks with the rest of the board with the view to making a formal offer. This is the second time in 18 months that the group has been on the

Centrica, recently demerged from British Gas, has begun to attract support at last. The price rose 312p to 6214p yesterday with a little help from SBC Warburg. Word has it that the broker has set a 90p target price for the shares. By the close of business, a total of 16.5 million shares had been traded.

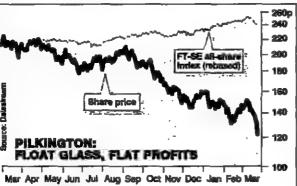
"hold" to "add". It says the group's broadcasting interests, which include Meridien and Anglia Television are undervalued.

Brokers gave the thumbs-up to better than expected fullyear figures from P&O with the price adding 9p to 634½ p. The group is going ahead with plans to restructure the business, which will include a

own management. At the same time, Country Casuals says it is in talks with potential buyers for its Elvi and Lerose businesses. Confirmation of a bid ap-

receiving end of a bid from its

proach was also good news for World of Leather, up 812p at 912p. But the group said any offer was unlikely to be at at anything more than a modest



Biocompatibles touched Ell before ending 7½p dearer at £10.90 before figures today. Shire Pharmaceuticals was also 144 p better at 233p after it received US approval to mar-ket Carbatrol, its epilepsy

Shield Diagnostics continued to advance, adding 35p at 725p after a positive presentation in the City. The shares were hit last week after faults were discovered in US bloodclotting trials the group had joined only last year. Others to mprove in the sector included British Biotech, 10p to 251 2p. Chiroscience, 1212p to 370p. and Scotia Holdings, 40p to

419p. On the AIM, Polymase Pharmaceuticals rose 19p to 1372p after linking with Oxford Molecular, Sp dearer at 408p, to develop a blood growth factor to be used in the treatment of cancer, anaemia

First-time dealings in Cambridge Antibody exceeded most expectations. The shares placed by Cazenove at 500p opened at 602p and touched a peak of 630p before closing at 615p, a premium of 115p. A profits setback left

Graystone nursing a fall of 14p at 1002p. Turnover was also down, but borrowings have risen. GILT-EDGED: Prices re-

covered from a weak start to close better on the day supported by firmer overseas bond markets. Institutional investors were keeping a wary eye on the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee meeting that is expected to signal the first rise in US interest rates for 14 months.

This morning the Bank of England will be auctioning £2.5 billion of Treasury 74 per cent 2007. In the futures pit, the June series of the Long Gilt put on seven ticks to close at £1091732 in moderate trade that saw 50,000 contracts completed.

In longs. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 rose E⁵16 to El02¹⁵16. while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a couple of ticks firmer at £102½. Index-linked finished E's lower.

NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street moved higher in morning trading as the mar-

ket awaited the widely anticipated interest rate increase. the Dow Jones industrial average was up 22.28 points at 6.927.53.

MAJOR INDICES

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RECENT ISSUES

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MAJOR CHANGES

Shire Pharms 233p (+141p) Andrew Sylves 530p (+30p)

419p (+40p)

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RIGHTS ISSUES

New York (midday): Dow Jones _______ 6927.53 (+22.24) S&F Composite ______ 795.01 (+4.12) Draught in the glass house PILKINGTON is the British Steel of the building materials sector — a good company make the returns look more impressive, but Amsterdam: building materials sector — a good company this is window dressing, however painful. Pilkington's fortunes will not improve until the European glass industry becomes eff-

struggling in an appalling market. The share price sagged again yesterday: last year's price increases failed to stick despite two attempts. and since January the price of float glass has fallen another 10 per cent. What is Pilkington to do? Another crushing

round of redundancies - this time in Germany - is the only answer. Like steel, this is an industry with too much capacity and, worse still, it is possible to obtain European grants to build a double glazing plant. Without shrinking, Pilkington's meagre 5 per cent margins might disappear, so the company will cut both production and manning at a cost of £20 million per year.

On current estimates, Pilkington's return

Institutional

investment

on investment is only just meeting its cost of

heady £9.6 billion in the

tion in shares, despite a rise in the index of 7 per cent.

months to June. The trouble is that they continued to pile money into short-term deposits when the FT-SE 100 was picking up a head of steam. Net invest-

ment in cash reached a

began to climb after a half year moving sideways. Since the beginning of 1996, the funds had been building up

ment in short-term assets

A CHARITABLE view of City fund managers is that they were on holiday when If the institutions were not buyers, what propelled the the stock market surged in August last year. Whatever economy. Nevertheless, they market? The likely answer is started to buy shares in the foreigners. About this time. sterling began to climb sharply against the mark the excuse, it would be true to say that fund managers were fourth quarter, just in time to catch the fall-out from the either selling or napping when the FT-SE 100 index and European funds, sensbase rate rise in October.

was 63 billion in the first quarter of last year and rose to £4.5 billion in the three

today's conglomerates at bay. Investors will have to hope that Pilkington gives away some of its cash. If it does not, they should sell. ing the strength of the UK period from July to Septemeconomy, piled their money ber compared with £0.5 bilinto sterling investments. Unfortunately, our domestic quick on the uptake or, perhaps, more cynical about the

icient. The company is in thrall to the car

manufacturers and cannot abandon unprofit-

Investors stand to gain little from

able business for fear of losing a customer.

Pilkington in the short term. Every percent-

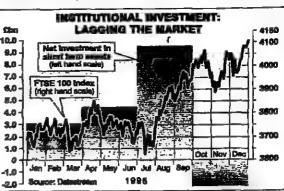
age drop in the share price brings forth the

usual stories of bids, but logic suggests

nothing is in the offing. In Europe, competi-

tion rules will prevent a rival from bidding, and who else would risk their money in this

market? The fashion for focus should keep



P&O

P&O is now beating City expectations, rather than disappointing, as was the praccame out ahead, rather than flat, for the year but the company still has a steep hill to climb, evidenced by the collapse in profits from containers in the second half.

A joint venture with Nedlloyd should make big improvements in container margins. Combining the two container operations should reduce costs by \$200 million, producing a benefit to P&O of some £60 million by 1998. There are two caveats: timing

P&O said the cost reductions are well advanced but rates are not under the partners' control. Ironically, t was Nedlloyd that caused the collapse in second-half profits; P&O's new partner cut its prices in search for volume just ahead of the

ness will not be enough to affect rates.

Elsewhere, P&O still needs to prune: Bovis Homes will

share of the combined busi- last month, fell to 400p when

hit the market in the Autumn, but P&O is still weighed down by commercial property. A total return, including income, of less than 10 per cent from bricks and mortar is unimpressive and looks all the more paltry compared with the 16 per cent return from the cruise ships. If there are buyers for P&O's properties, the com-

followed the advice made a

killing from British Biotech,

Celltech, Cortecs Internation-

al and, most spectacularly,

Now is the time to cast an

eye over Scotia Holdings, an-

other big player in the sector.

Cantab Pharmaceuticals.

pany should sell. Scotia A GOOD rule of thumb for and container rates. biotech investors is to buy after a setback. Those who

prove Tarabetic, a treatment for the nerve damage that often accompanies diabetes. Scotia can wheel out a bat-

UK regulators refused to ap-

tery of diabetes experts to back its claims for Tarabetic. And yesterday it gave a highly impressive presenta tion on Foscan, the light-activated cancer drug that is its most important project.

has always centred on its focus on the fatty-based mole-cules called lipids and on its unconventional management style. Therefore, it is reassuring to hear that a reorganisation will concentrate resources on four areas and cease work on arthritis, women's healthcare and the cardiovascular field. Scotia accepts that it still needs to

raise a lot more money.

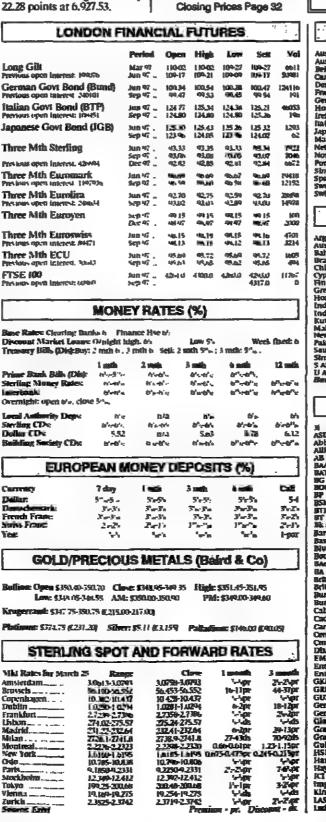
Buying in managers from big drug companies gives some further reassurance. but at 419p Scotia remains

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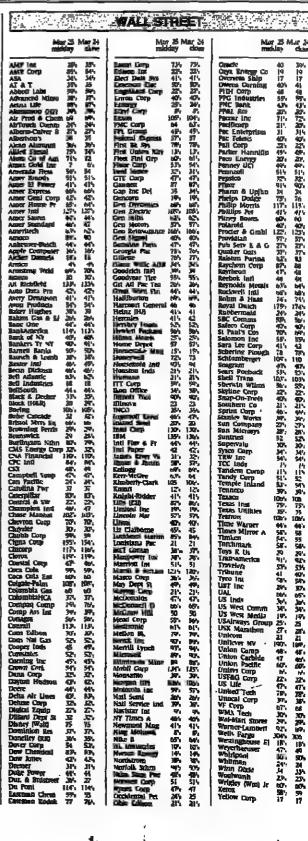
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THE

Treasury loses a treasure

KENNETH CLARKE bade his farewells this week. After 19 years working for the Treasury, the housekeeper to the Chan-cellor is retiring. Marie Collier, nick-

named "the lady under the stairs", has served Lord Lawson, John Major, and Norman Lamont during their stays at Downing

The diminutive cockney sparrow will be greatly missed, not more so than by the Chancellor himself, who handed her a House of Commons head scarf at a drinks party to launch this year's Women Into ness Awards.

WESTHERT.

"Marie is the staff at Number II," the Chancellor said. "Last year, she joined the club, and was awarded an MBE."

Patient party

MUCH excitement at the Securities and Investments Board, where Anthony Minghella's sister works as head of the enforcement, law and policy support department. Loretta Minghella, sibling to the Oscar-winning di-rector of The English Patient, celebrated with SIB colleagues at a cinema on Monday night, before they made their way on to a party. For the record, Loretta's mother makes a cameo appearance in the movie which scooped a



is floating Bovis Homes

Grant's goodbye

SIR Alistair Grant waves goodbye to Safeway. His departure as chairman comes not long after he celebrated his 60th birthday at Claridge's. Sir James Blyth, Sir Peter Davies, Baron Briggs, Lord Gowrie and David Webster, Safeway's incoming chairman, were among the 130 guests who sat down to a special dinner. Proof that age is no barrier

— Sir Alistair flies to Edinburgh tonight for a meeting in his latest capac ity as non-executive chairman of Scottish & Newcastle.

Archer target

OVER breakfast at the Hyatt Cariton Tower last week. Stephen Wenman was made an offer he couldn't refuse. Dick Cole, chairman of Chartwell Re, which owns the Archer Group, stretched across the table and asked the founder and former chairman of Special Risk Services if he had considered the role of chief executive. Before the toast was cold, Wenman was asked to take up his new post immediately. He started work at Archer the next day.

Party line

RUMOURS have been whizzing round that Sir Emie Harrison, the chairman of Vodafone, has been handing out free mobile phones to the Tory party. This is true - well sort of. In the run-up to the election, Sir Ernie has lent a phone to Richard Benyon, the Conservative candidate in his constituency of Newbury. I am told that Benyon is paying for all his calls, but given the trouncing the Tories had last time they faced the voters of Berkshire, the man needs all

the help he can get. MORAG PRESTON

Return on the cards for ideas of Keynes, the prodigal son

Economists are taking a new look at the

Conservative

legacy, says Janet Bush

t is becoming common place for economists to argue that the radical Conservative programme of supply side reform over the past 18 years has finally worked its magic and that the British economy can now grow faster, with lower unemploy-ment and less inflation, than in the past.

Some take the argument even further and suggest that the transformation wrought by the Tory assault on trade union militancy, reform of welfare and taxes, deregulation and privatisation, have made the world safe for the return of that long-shunned prodigal -- Keynesian demand management

This is a breathtaking claim given the opprobrium heaped on the ideas of John Maynard Keynes since their unquestioned dominance was broken towards the end of the 1970s and it needs some qualification.

Rew are talking about the large-scale pump priming of demand through government decisions on fiscal policy that formed a key part of Keynes's thinking in the 1920s and 1930s. when the great challenges facing the world economy were depression and mass unemployment and inflation was more or less unknown. There is still a firm consensus that demand management should largely be conducted through monetary policy and that bud-gets should, at least over the cycle as a whole, be aimed towards balance There is also no decisive

break in the unanimity, which continues to spread across the globe as neo-liberal economics are exported to the developing world, that fighting inflation rather than pursuing full employment is the prime aim of macroeconomic policies. Instead, it is microeconomic or supply side policies that are touted as the main tool for trying to cut unemployment.

So it is that institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the OECD - not to mention our own Kenneth Clarke - continue to urge structural reform, as well as lower interest rates, on those continental European economies lumbered with abjectly high levels of unemployment. And, as we all know, new Labour is committed to a tough inflation target and the golden rule on public borrowing as its macroeconomic framework with a panoply of so-called active labour market measures and micro-adjustments to the tax and benefit systems designed to incentivise the workforce and lower unemployment. There is not much vin-

tage Keynes on display here. But although big picture Keynesianism is far from making a triumphal return, there has been a distinct shift in economic thinking in America a triumphal return, there







In the brave new world post-Margaret Thatcher, Keynesian fine-tuning is back, but will Gordon Brown respond?

logues at the IMF appear to be part of an emerging strand of

Some, albeit rather isolated, voices are even trying to rehabilitate fine-tuning through fiscal policy as opposed to the e use of interest rates that has become established in Britain and America. In a paper this month for the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and the Economic and Social Research Council. Simon Wren-Lewis, Professor of Economics at Exeter University, argues against the current consensus that fiscal policy is ineffective in influencing demand and output. He contends that some fiscal

actions by government could be very powerful in managing demand by in-

fluencing the pattern spending and provides model-based evidence of the put of different

types of fiscal stimulation. His findings are interesting in themselves, but the key point is that Professor Wren-Lewis writes on the assumption that there is nothing intrinsically wrong with using fiscal policy to determine the level of output at any given time.

By far the most important nod in the direction of Keynes is the fact that tackling unemployment is back on the economic and political agenda. On the simplest level, this is because unemployment is now perceived as a much more pressing social and economic But it is critically because

problem than inflation which, for now, is relatively well behaved throughout the world. supply side measures, and most importantly, reforms to make the labour market more flexible, are widely believed to have changed the balance between inflation and unemployment. There may still be a domwords, Britain can have lower unemployment without igniting higher inflation. How far unemployment can fall without

inant camp of those who be-

lieve, as Norman Lamont so

notoriously expressed it, that

unemployment is a "price

worth paying" for low inflation.

The difference now is that the

The belief is that the Nairu

(the non-accelerating Inflation

rate of unemployment) or the

"natural rate" of unemployment has dropped. In other tightening conditions in the labour market to the extent that wages start to rise in order to attract the right kind of staff is a key question of the current economic debate and lies at the centre of current contention on

6 The most important nod in the

direction of Keynes is that tackling

whether Britain needs higher

fallen cuts across political lines.

A private dinner of top-flight

British economists with very

different political sympathies

recently found nobody in dis-

agreement that Conservative

supply side reforms have worked. Most people used to

think that the unemployment

rate could fall to 7 per cent

without risking higher infla-

tion. Many economists will

now bet money on 6 or even 5

per cent. Professor Patrick

Minford talks about a natural

For the record, it is worth

noting that last week's labour

market statistics showed the

unemployment rate falling to

6.2 per cent in Pebruary and

the annual rate of average

earnings growth rising - some

say ominously - to 5 per cent.

It remains to be seen whether

this increase largely reflects

transfering the jewel in its

crown, the Toyota agency, to a

company run by Mohammed.

share of control of the group.

sort of thing should not hap-

rate of 2 per cent.

Belief that the Nairu has

interest rates or not.

spread pressure on wages as unemployment falls. in the brave new world of

City bonuses or more wide-

post-Thatcherism - and of course Reaganism - it is an exciting challenge for policy-makers to test just how far unemployment can safely fall. In this sense, Keynesian finetuning is certainly back. Alan Greenspan, at the US

Federal Reserve, has sailed as close to the inflationary wind as possible to pursue the goal of higher employment and done so with considerable success. In Britain, Mr Clarke has, by refusing to be penicked into raising interest rates by the Bank of England, tested his own belief that Conservative reforms may have raised Britain's long-run

sustainable growth mie from perhaps 2.25 per cent to nearer to 3 per cent. Treasury mandarins are, as ever,

unemployment is on the agenda ? allowing themselves to think in terms of a small rise to 2.50 per

> Against this background, new Labour finds itself in uncomfortable territory. Although it has pledged not to reverse Conservative reforms, it cannot bear to acknowledge fully that they have worked. The danger of this is that Gordon Brown may fail to test the lower limits of unemployment by encouraging a little bit more demand and chooses to pursue an unnecessarily cautious policy of tight money, dubbed sado-

Mr Brown's sales pitch is that Conservative economic policies have failed and that it is new Labour that will raise Britain's long-run growth rate, largely through improving investment in physical and intellectual capital. Most economists believe that trying to build up skills and education. in particular, is a useful aim in

ing all over the country, as the

ed by Saudi Arabia's oil boom

battle to emerge, but far from

control of the group. In the end

one son took the business

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ue of control of the massive

itself but there is great scepti-cism that Labour will succeed in raising Britain's growth rate much further, except in the very long term.

For one thing, the Labour argument that low investment under successive Conservative governments has held back British growth does not completely hold water. Gross fixed capital formation has run at an average of 20.8 per cent of gross domestic product since 1965 and is close to that during the current recovery.

Regardless of Labour's ac-cent on raising the growth rate through encouraging greater investment, Mr Brown seems to be missing the point that there may still be scope to reduce unemployment by taking Keynesian measures simply to bring the economy back to its full growth potential.

There are still those, of course, who argue that Britain has reached its current combination of low inflation and fastfalling unemployment through deep recessions. Praise of Conservative supply side reforms has to be tempered with the observation that unemployment is still half a million higher than it was in 1979.

But Mr Brown has to answer the question whether he, as Chancellor, would be prepared to wipe that half a million off unemployment relatively swiftly by taking the demand side measures that the New Keyneslan consensus is beginning to



Forecast: fog persisting indefinitely

succeed, try, try, try again" is not a bad rule elchildren who get the answer wrong first go; they have been taught the rules, so they simply have to apply them. For grown-up forecasters and analysts. however, the world is not so simple. They apply the rules they have learnt, but they get the wrong answer. Did they themselves wrong? This question is pressing, because forecasts seem to go from bad to worse; yet few of those who mislead us so confidently seem willing to consider revising the rules.

Look through the reports from lagging investm managers (notably those who preach value investing) or from the economists who have been crying wolf about inflation for so long. and you will find something very like obstinacy. "We got it wrong last time," they admit, "but it will be different next time." Or the time after. Not the forecast, that is to say, but the outcome. Our copybook rules are bound to

work in the end. Why do these people, from the Bank of England down, cling to strategies or models that are clearly faulty, and doing such damage to their reputations? Partly pride but partly economic pressure. Strategies and models cost. Value investment relies on a huge effort in company analvsis. An economic model. which can rival the complexity of a weather forecasting system, is even worse. So fine tune, by all means; check all the inputs (remember: gar-bage in, garbage out). But back to the drawing board? Not if we can help it; and anyway, who would pay for all the new software?

at first sight, is Oxford Economic Forecasting, whose warning of policy dilemmas for the next government was making so much weekend news. Most of their assessment section is an attempt to work out the consequences of the recent huge rise in sterling — an event which, they admit, took them, like most others, completely by sur-prise. They are bold enough to question the consensus view that with sterling so strong, inflation must fall:

An honourable exceptions

rise when sterling was weak, so the link must be less direct than it looks. Full marks for open-mine Full marks, too, for clear language: I have seldom read an economic discussion in such limpid prose. No bafflegab at all. But what are they saying?

They do start one possible hare: the effect of exchange rate change on prices depends not just on the numbers, but on what caused any change. But since this change took them by surprise, they do not caused it; so they might just earch", and move on But they don't. They start discussing hypothetical cases; and just what they are saying so lucidly, damned if I know, even after several readings. The rise of the pound might hold prices down, for a short or perhaps a longer time, or not; or it might even push them up. There: that must cover all

It ought surely be possible to do better than this. For a start, the rise in sterling was not a surprise to everyone. Patrick Minford of Liverpool got it broadly right. (Why was this thinker dropped as a Treasury wise man? For showing up the others?) Readers of these pages will have read again and again that tight fiscal and loose monetary policy (for example, Japan and the EMU candidates) drives exchange rates down; and in case you missed the point. all these countries have announced that they wanted to devalue. So has the pound risen much at all, or are we simply on the other end of a see-saw? That looks like the main explanation.

🥆 o far as it is not, i suggests that British interest rates are too fiscal policy is still too relaxed. Awkward politically. but hardly a dilemma. The big threat to Gordon Brown's sleep is not policy. but his proposed Council of Economic Advisers. If Oxford is a fair sample of the goods on offer (and it is a bit better that fair), he will soon be lost in the fog too.

Jason Nissé looks into Saudi business strife

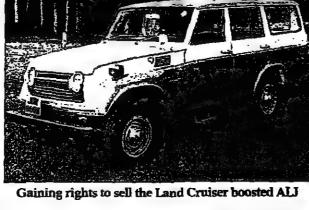
Family feud poses wider worries

A change is blowing through the opaque world of Saudi Arabian business life. A legal battle for control of the \$4 billion Abdul Latif Jameel Group (ALJ), the international property, motor trading and consumer products giant, has exposed a structural schism and threatens the development of one of the world's richest nations. The fight for ALJ was prompt-

ed by the death in 1993 of Sheikh Abdul Jameel, its 84-year-old founder. A low-paid government official, he started the company in 1945, distributing Western consumer goods to the newly affluent Saudis. When, ten years later, he gained the rights to sell the Toyota Land Cruiser, a four-wheel drive vehicle essential before today's modern road networks were completed in the Gulf, the

company mushroomed. It is now the UK's third largest car dealer, owning Hartwell, the Land Rover seller. It also distributes electronic goods for Toshiba and Akai in the Gulf and has widespread US property interests.

Under Sharia, Sheikh Jameel's assets were divided between his six children, the three sons, Yousef, Mohammed and Madgi each receiving 22.2 per cent of the group



and the three daughters 11.1 per cent each. Magdi, at 40 the youngest. was seen by many as the heir-

apparent, having run the electronics business and the US operations, The eldest, Yousef, was an international playboy, well known in London clubs and casinos until 1988 when he breached a court order and kidnapped his daughter, Sara, 9. This restricted his movements as he could have been imprisoned for contempt had

he entered the UK. Now based in Jeddah, the Saudi capital. Yousef and the middle brother, Mohammed, decided to take control of the modern business practices, this group. Magdi claims they

of the last half century comes to the boil. Most of the country's businesses are owned by families, often headed by ageing patriarchs. Sharia, which worked well when many Saudis were nomadic farmers, works less well when trying to determine the future of industrial The ALJ fight is the largest

the first. Not long ago the Nagui family, which owns used a power of attorney given by Magdi in the Seventies, agencies for Rothman cigachanging the articles of associrettes and BMW cars, was torn apart by a battle between ation to nullify his blocking vote in the company and the leader's two sons over

with assets and cash. Magdi and his younger Magdi Jameel admits his sister, Nadia, are now suing to overturn this and gain their fight may be bad for ALJ prestige both at home and An advisor to Magdi says: abroad. But it is also exposing This is one of the biggest the desperate need for reform companies in Saudi Arabia and in the country's commercial it raises key questions about structures and law and may corporate governance. If the have much more wide-reaching implictions than deciding country wants to position itself who controls the company that as a modern economy with

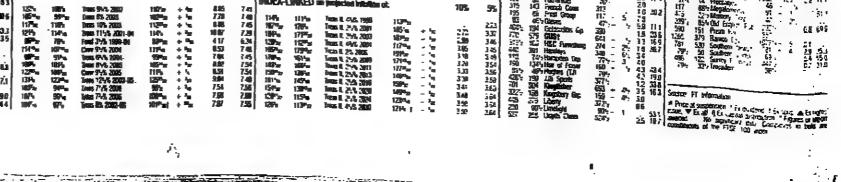
Dun & Bradstreet industrial infrastructure creattwo-way flow of ideas

has been unceasing."

in the business market."

"Different internal referencing codes has made... "Over the years we have worked together, the it costly and time consuming to retrieve and two-way flow of ideas and suggestions for reorganise customer data. We sought partners improvement has been unceasing. Today, all who could help us achieve consistency across parts of our organisation can base their all our systems, and D&B came out on top as decisions on the same information. D&B have the partner who could help us achieve our goal also built our predictive 'scoring' system which enables us to monitor our commercial accounts more effectively."

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Tibbett & Britten recovers

Tibbett & Britten, the contract logistics company, saw pre-tax profits recover to £23.8 million in 1996 from £12.1 million previously, helped by improved trading conditions in the UK Earnings almost doubled to 35.8 pa share. There is a final dividend of 12p, making a total of 17.2p (16.2p). Almost half the total revenue was earned outside the UK, with North America accounting for more than 75 per cent of revenue growth.

Deal agreed

Contains

TMENT:

Fayrewood, the Aim-listed distributor of audio equipment, has conditionally agreed to buy Banque Magnetique for Fr23 mil-lion (£2.5 million) in cash and 457,446 Fayrewood shares. A further Fr12 million may be payable if performance criteria is met. Fayrewood shares have been suspended at 67¹2p due to the size of the deal.

Luminar issue

Luminar, the bar and restaurant group, is to raise £15,6 million in a one-forthree rights issue at 320p a share. The shares rose 144p to 3592p after the announcement. The cash will be used to speed up the expansion of the Chicago Rock cafe theme bar and restaurant business.

Symonds fall

Shares in Symonds fell 17p to 42p after the electronic equipment group said resuits for the year to March 31 will not meet expections because of order shortfalls in the process technology and precision engineering divisions".

Capital foiled

Pre-tax profits at Capital Industries fell to E6.3 million (£6.5 million) in 1996 on turnover of £86.7 million (£89 million). The supplier of specialist packaging and foils is increasing the total dividend to 5.7p (5.2p), with a final 3p.

Logica helpline

Logics, the computer services group, will today announce a £1.5 million contract to set up an emer-gency helpline for customelectricity provider. The system will be named Trouble Call.

Kingsbury lift

Kingsbury Group, the fur-niture retailer, lifted pretax profits to £4.5 million from £4.1 million in 1996. A final dividend of 2.5p lifts the total 25 per cent to 3.75p, payable from earnings of 12.6p a share (11.7p).

Pilkington profit warning shatters City expectations

A PROFITS warning from Pilkington, the glass products group, shattered City optimism ahead of the results for the year to March 31. The profit forecast was revised down from £175 million to £130 million, sending the shares to their lowest level in more than three years.

The main reason for the shortfall is the depressed construction sector in Europe and overcapacity in the glass indus-try. Pilkington said. Sales volumes and end-product prices were badly hit in Germany, the

group's main market. The German building sector suffered heavy losses after the post-unification construction bubble burst two years ago. A restructuring programme announced last year will be accelerated and expanded to cope with market conditions.

Divisions on the Continent face additional plant and line closures to improve efficiency. The group said: "As a result, job losses.

Rudd: setback

ongoing restructuring costs of close to £20 million per annum will be borne in the next two years, twice the level previously indicated."

A further one-off charge of £40 million is to be expected in the 1997 accounts to cover asset write-offs associated with its restructuring plans, Pilkington does not expect total net exceptional losses of more than £55 million.

rector, said Pilkington is in talks with unions in Germany about the closure of processing and double glazing plants. He said: "In Germany there will be a significant number of

Europe is the biggest mar-ket for building material glass products. Around 80 per cent of sales are in continental Europe. Mr Robb said overcapacity in Europe had reached 10 per cent, but he believes sales will pick up in the

Sir Nigel Rudd, chairman. said: "These results represent a setback. However, I have no doubt the group's underlying strategy is sound."

The strength of the pound cost the group about £10 million because of a mixture of losses in translating foreign profits into sterling and the increased attractiveness of cheaper imports. The shares closed 7½ p down at 120p.



Charles Parker, the managing director of leisure group Clubhaus, and Guy Buckley, chief operating officer, cel ebrate a 70 per cent rise in profits to £1.49 million. Earn ings reached 3.6p a share but there is no final dividend.

Booker figures suffer over cost of buying rival

Peacock, a direct competitor. knocked back pre-tax profits at Booker, Britain's largest cash and carry operator, from £83 million to £13 million last

The company also revealed yesterday that the additional volume produced by the acquisition has put the reorganisation of its distribution network six months behind schedule. The integration of the two companies is otherwise on

Profits for the year to De-cember 28 were hit by exceptional charges of £88.9 million relating to the £264 million acquisition made in November, and to the reorganisation of Booker's food service

Operating profit from continuing operations excluding exceptionals rose 4 per cent to £122,4 million, while turnover from continuing operations increased 5 per cent to £4.44

Food wholesaling profits rose 27 per cent, including a contribution from Nurdin &

THE cost of buying Nurdin & Peacock. Fish processing also grew strongly, but profits de-clined in the agricultural busi-nesses and in food service, which suffered from competitive markets and pressure on markets. Difficulties are expected to continue at Holroyd Meek, the contract caterers,

throughout 1997. Charles Bowen, chief executive, said he would consider selling the prepared foods business, which is considered non-core, but he has not yet received any reasonable of-fers. Booker would expect to raise more than £50 million

After exceptionals, a loss per share of 4.7p compares to earnings of 22.8p per share a year earlier. Net debt at the end of the year was £381.9

Booker shares fell 3½p to 333½p as Jonathan Taylor. chairman, gave warning that significant benefits will not be seen by shareholders until 1998. A final dividend of 15.7p (15.2p) is payable on July 1. It gives a full-year dividend of 23.8p (23.1p).

Sale boosts Singer & Friedlander

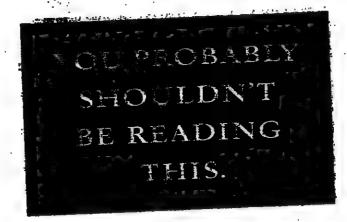
By ROBERT MILLER

SINGER & Friedlander, the City merchant bank, received a boost from the sale of its stake in Peoples Phone to lift annual pre-tax profits by 57

per cent, to £54.8 million. Without the exceptional sale item, Singer profits in the year to December 31 rose 22 per cent, to £41.7 million. Earnings per share, excluding the sale, rose to 11.63p, from 9.96p in 1995. The final dividend, due on June 4, rises to 2.8p. from 2.4p, making 4.65p (4p).

Singer, which saw funds under management rise to £6 billion, from £3.8 billion, said that Carnegie, a Nordic stockbroking, investment banking and asset management firm, had contributed £16.1 million to profits, against £14.3 million last time. Collins Stewart, the bank's broking arm, also contributed to bottom-line profits. In corporate broking. than £300 million.

On insurance broking, Singer said that "in spite of all steps" taken to reduce costs in Edgar Hamilton, the business continued to decline and make losses and had therefore been sold. The loss for the part of the year in which Singer owned the broker was £300,000, and there was a capital loss on sale of £3 million. Singer shares fell 10p to



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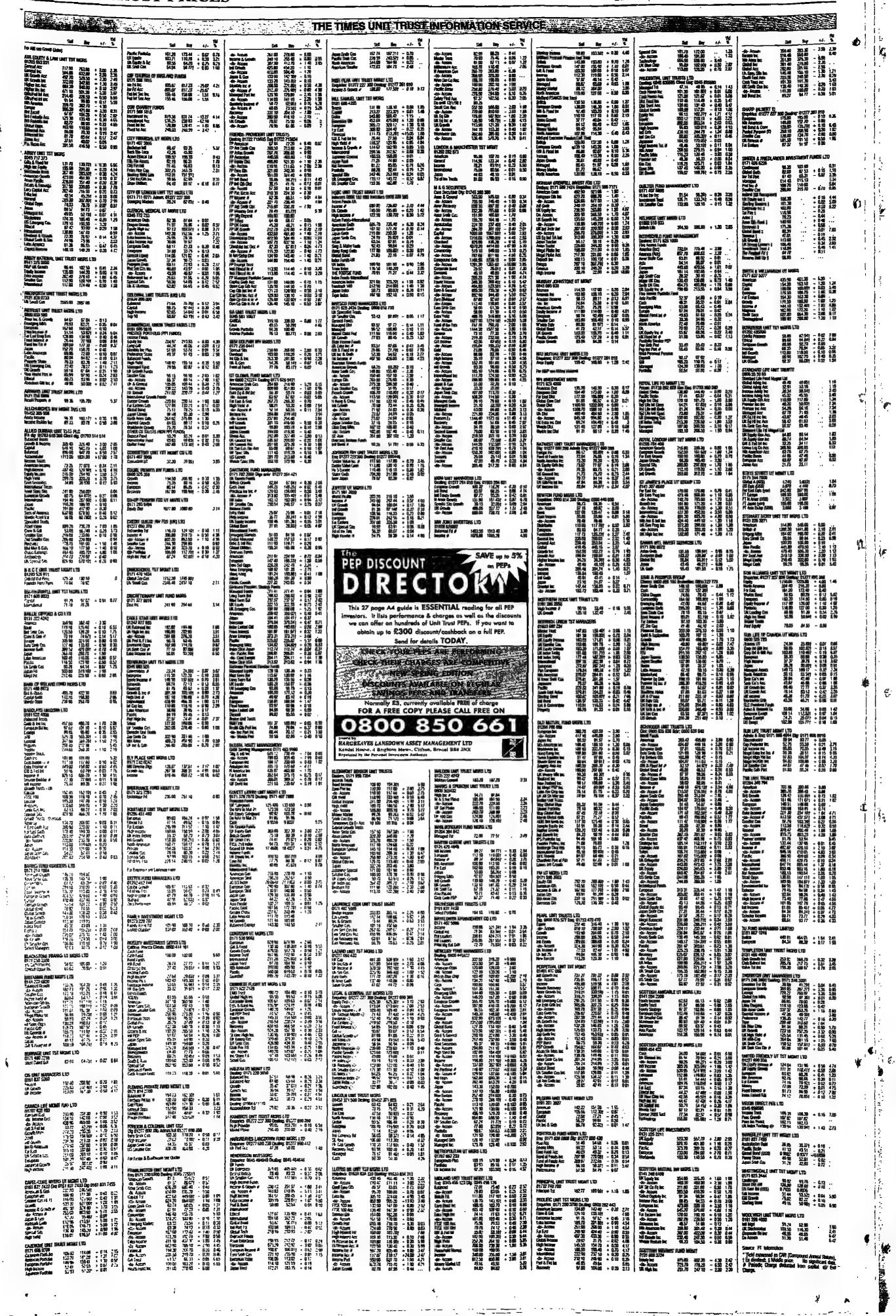
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حكذا من الأصل

ARCH 26 kg.

Annie Turner introduces a special report on the upsurge in advanced technology that will revolutionise dialling



Desert call box: Sandy Gall sends home a story amid the dunes where normal links are absent

International deal that gets the world connected

The gulf between telecom-numications links in the developed and developing world is expected to dimin ish rapidly after the landmark accord reached last month at the World Trade Organisation meeting

Sixty-eight countries promised to open up their telecommunications markets to competition and agreed to abide by a common set of rules to ensure fair play. Statistics over the past seven years have shown that in countries where competition in telecommunications has been allowed, economies have grown faster by an average of more than 6

Charlene Barshelsky, the acting US trade representative who nego-tiated on behalf of the US at the WTO talks, described the pact as being "one of the most important agreements for the 21st century". It will come into force on January I, 1998, the same date as complete telecommunications liberalisation is due to begin in most European Union countries.

All basic telecommunications services are covered in the agreement, including voice, data, fax and radio and satellite-based services.

Ms Barshefsky claimed that it could reduce the cost of international calls by as much as 80 per cent. in terms of market capitalisation, global telecommunications ranks

behind only health care and bank-ing as a global industry. Yet many sub-Saharan and other underdeveloped countries have fewer than a single telephone line per 100 people. At the other end of the scale, Sweden has more mobile phones per head of population than most countries have ordinary lines.

The growth in telecommunications seems inexprable; it grew at twice the rate of the global economy

The ITU reckons that by 1998 the communications sector will be a \$1 trillion industry worldwide and that, by the turn of the century, the combined base of conventional and mobile telephones will be around

and, at first glance, it looks as niunications is accentuating the golf between the developed and

developing world.

The US, Western Europe and Japan become ever more reliant on

telephone calls, electronic mail, faxes and the Internet. In contrast, some 43 million households are on the waiting list for telephones around the world and the average waiting time is a year.

However, things could improve rapidly and radically in many Negotiator: Barshefsky developing countries, with such a number of countries promising to

open up their telecommunications markets to competition. Many countries have retained their national monopolies as they are nor-

mally highly profitable..

The other main factor that will help the developing world is new technology. Installing phone lines is no longer a matter of putting

be done far more quickly and cheaply by providing mobile networks or by using radio-based technology to provide "fixed" lines

or by satellite. According to Qualcomm of San Diego, California, by 2000 over 32 million "fixed" lines will be installed using radio technology which will rise to 529.8 million by 2010. In the next two years three competing constellations of satellites will be launched to provide phone, fax and data transmission

Needless to say, the world's telephone operators are rubbing their hands in glee at the prospect of this expected massive increase in traffic. In particular there has been an unseemly scramble by the world's largest telcos to form alliances to help them to address the needs of multinationals.

Jean-Yves Charlier, president of ITS, the global network integrator, says: "Multinationals want to cut costs and they see the best way of doing this to be through standardising their infrastructure

This is Sandy Gall, reporting from the desert

The days when intrepid explorers, and even businessmen and journalists travelling in remote areas, were cut off from all contact with the civilised

world have long gone.
The introduction of mobile satellite communications systems means that contact can be maintained just about everywhere in the world and the equipment is getting smaller. lighter and simpler to operate.

A satellite phone no bigger or heavier than a notebook PC has been developed and launched commercially in a joint initiative by BT and Yorway's Telenor, who claim that it is the world's smallest global mobile communica-

the Mobiq and weighing just 51b, it can be say the makers, from virtually any land mass. They say it works even in the Himalayas, where previously cellular phones have been

Sandy Gall, the writer and broadcaster, was equipped with a Mobiq while leading an expedition across the Omani Desert.

"Naturally it doesn't pro-vide quite the sound quality

equipment," he said, "but it is terribly portable and considcrably cheaper."

Immarsat satellites positioned over the equator provide the links for Mobiq. The high power of these newgeneration satellites means that less power is needed on the ground, paving the way for smaller terminals and cheaper call charges.

Users dial an international number as they would if they were using a conventional

fand line phone.

The Mobiq delivers digitised voice, fax and data. communications including email and comes as a complete package of telephone and air

able SIM card which offers security and allows users to share telephones while retaining their billing data and storing speed dial numbers on their personal cards.

The Mobiq costs £2,400 and call charges are about £1.80 per minute. There is a monthly charge of £15 which provides five minutes of free air

MICHAEL KNIPE

Japan for mobile phones and

Personal Handyphone Sys

tems (PHS) has burgeoned.

There are 26 mobile phone services on offer from foreign and domestic companies, with

some 720,000 new customers a month joining almost 20 million existing customers.

PHS has more than 1.5

million subscribers to 28 PHS

services, which attract 300,000 new customers each month

Combined, this means that

just over 15 per cent of Japan's population of 120 million are

mains an enigma to many

outsiders. NTT is beginning to deal with the lack of information by using the Internet's World Wide Web. The Japan

Window opened a year ago and aims to provide informa-

tion about Japan to both

nomics and financial informa-

tion, science and technology information and daily news

features. Japan Window is

accessed more than 16,000

The Internet address is

http://jw.nttam.com New

sites about Japan appear each

week which may be found

using an online Web search

engine such as Yahoo or Lycos

to locate sites that include

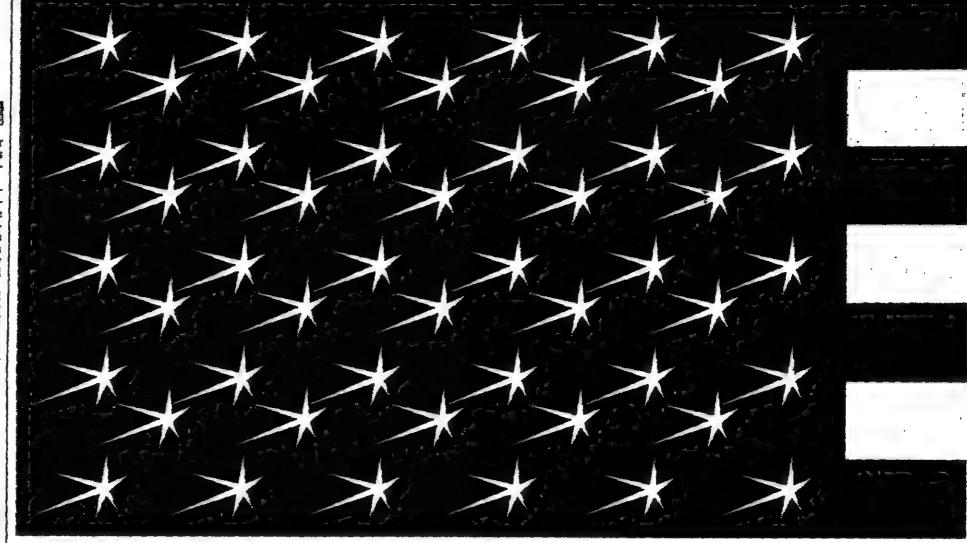
times a day.

ontent is diverse and

includes such topics as Japanese business, eco-

America and Europe.

mobile phone owners. Japanese culture still re-



Overseas target fuels restructure

TAPAN . dustry in 1994, the market in

dvanced telecommunications play a signifi-Cant part in the structural reform programme under way in Japan to make the country's industry highly competitive again.

At the moment, Japan lags far behind Europe and America in this field. For example, it is impossible to make a mobile telephone call from Japan to

The economic planning agency is encouraging entrepreneurship, deregulation and the development of a competitive market. Recommendations include liberalising entry into the telecommunications industry, abolishing price reg-ulation, and working to control the monopolistic power of NTT, which supplies local and long-distance telecommunications services through a modernised and largely digitai network.

NTT has been putting its efforts into rapid globalisa-tion. Last week it was announced that it had joined BT in a venture with Singapore Technologies Telemedia to bid for Singapore's second telecommunications licence. This is a very significant move, as Singapore has one of the most highly developed telecommunications systems in Asia. Last week it was announced

ications services. Network Information Service (NIS), in which Marubeni and BT have major shareholdings, and BT Japan

mobile communications in-

that BT and Marubeni Corporation will form a joint venture in Japan to provide domestic and global commun-

Japan in their address or A good index of Web addresses in Japan may be found will join forces on April 1. Since the deregulation of the

on Cyberspace Japan, Internet address http://www.csj.co.jp RUTH TAPLIN

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Phone future is in the cards

Annie Turner

on how plastic

credit is

booming in

call boxes

growing sectors of the telecommunications market is phone cards. It has rapidly turned into a multi-million pound global industry.

There are many types of phone cards, but they have two things in common: they are simple to use and keep the cost of calls down. Now, prepaid cards predominate. They can be bought from garage forecourts to supermarkets and are in use in more than 188 countries.

But they have a significant disadvantage: they can be used only with pay phones that belong to the operator that issued the card and that are equipped to handle them.

Now, new types of cards are flooding onto the market. They work by the caller dialling an access code and the number he wants to reach. The access code automatically routes him to the card issuer's network and, after accessing a dialling tone, he can make his call.

These cards can be used with almost any phone, the only condition being that the toll free number (0800 or 0500 number in the UK) that typically is used as the access code is obtainable from the country you are in. The number 0800 has been agreed as the international standard for toll free calls, but not everywhere yet. Another bonus of using

calling cards when abroad is

that you can deal with an operator who speaks your language and uses a familiar Another variation is charge

cards issued by your home or office service provider, so that calls made from elsewhere are simply added to your home or office phone bill or charged to your credit card. Most of the big operators issue charge cards including AT&T, BT, MCI and Sprint, They ensure that you do not pay for the use of the phone that you make the call from, but are billed at the same rate as you would have paid back at base.

This is useful in many situations, including being abroad, being able to use a friend or even a stranger's phone without it costing them. or to provide cards to children so that they have no excuse for not calling home.

Where the card is used to make calls on a telephone account, security is usually enforced with a personal identification number (PIN) for authentication before calls are

> out the hotel phone system altogether, especially as the ability to use a mobile phone abroad (roaming) is becoming more commonplace.
> Although roaming is expensive, it is still cheaper than hotel bills and a mobile phone

can be used in conjunction with a calling card. Matthew Fernandez, sales director with London-based card producer TCS, thinks this will prove a popular option. He believes that many com-

Prepaid cards are available

from other operators such as

Swiftcall (0171-488 2001) or

First Telecom (0171-572 7700)

or World Telecom (0171-384

5000) in the UK who require

prepayment in return for mas-

sively discounted internation-

Subscribers' can top up the

amount of airtime they have

whenever they want by

authorising a credit card pay-

In many ways, the rise of the

calling card is due to greedy

hotels, whose typical mark-up

is 700 per cent. The hotel

business is out of step with the

rest of the world. The cost of

calls is falling worldwide, yet

hotels insist on charging a

premium, provoking much re-

Furthermore, many busi-

ness travellers turn their hotel

bedrooms into mobile offices

and want to be able to send

and receive electronic mail

and faxes, as well as pick up

their voice mail and maybe

The cost is prohibitive and

hotels do not seem to realise

that if they dropped their

prices the traffic volumes

The hotel trade's most com-

mon reaction to its guests

dialling a toll free number to

obtain cheaper calls is to block

their access or apply a sur-

charge on the bill.

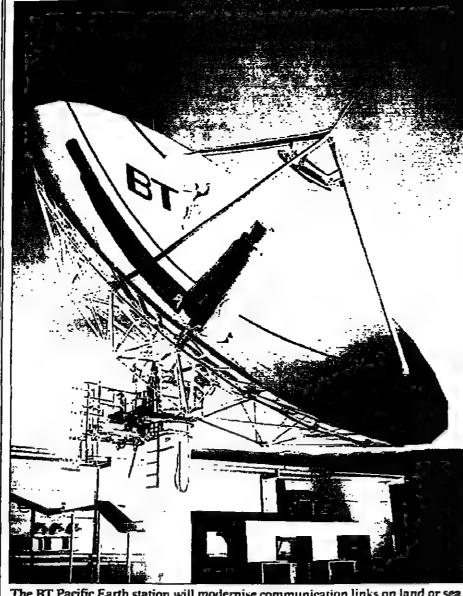
Mobile subscribers can cut

access their office computer.

sentment in their customers.

ment to the card issuer.

panies are realising that phone cards make a superb marketing tool, and that the next step is to put phone credits on to supermarket loyalty cards.



Uplink down under

WHEN the new £15 million Land Earth Station in Auckland goes live in May. BT is set to offer its customers a service that, apart from the polar regions, will span the whole world, Michael Knipe writes.

Called BT Pacific, the

station will work in tandem with BT's existing land Earth stations, BT Atlantic (former Goonhilly) in the UK and BT Indian at Eik in

The station will provide the Earth link for the Inmarsat Pacific Ocean region satellite and offer a full range of communications facilities including voice. fax, telex, data and high speed data capabilities. It

GSM

EARTH STATION

will also introduce applications such as video conferencing. Internet access and

"Customers will be able to use BT anywhere in the world on land or at sea." says Rohan Chanmugam, general manager of BT's aeronautical and maritime "We are probably not the

cheapest service but ours provides the best quality and customer service. A dedicated network will maintain our service." Competitive pricing and a

single billing system are

among the advantages for customers using its services worldwide at sea or on land. BI's New Zealand partner. telecommunications provider Clear, has assisted by providing the national and nternational links to the BT global voice and data networks. BT's communications systems for maritime and land mobile use include Inmarsat-A, B-Sat, M-Sat,

C-Sat and Mobiq. Another recent development by BT saw the introduction of B-Sat High with airtime Speed Data (HSD). an extension of the B-Sat service. It enables interconnection with the land-based Integrated Services Digital

Gallic system on alert for flotation

Trance Telecom, the telecommunications mo-I nopoly owned by the French Government, will be partially privatised in May in what is expected to be the largest curporate stock offering in French history. Joel Stratte-McClure writes.

The announcement in Paris as week concerning the company's financial future will poest the liberalisation of the domestic relecommunications market, it also cements the French approach to the Euro-pean Union-mandated open telecommunications market

The public flotation of the company, which has been valued by financial experts at between Fri00-200 billion (Ell-. 22 billion) is expected to gener-

offer in

French

history

between Fr30-50 billion 53.5-6 billion). The French Government will keep 51 per cent of the shares to "keep it a model of a public sector minister said. One survey indi-

cates that 27 per cent of all. Frenchmen will be interested in buying shares when selling starts on May 27 and the stock is listed on the Paris and New

York markets on June 9. Michel Bon. 52, president, is former banker and retailer who took over the reins of France Telecom in 1995. He says: "We want the greatest number of shareholders pos-

M Bon — who is credited with taming French unions, cutding relecommunications rates, and improving overall telephone and data services also announced financial resuits last week. Last year, the world's fifth largest telecommunications carrier had revenues of Fr151.3 billion (£17.25 billion), up 2.4 percent on 1995's Fr147.8 billion (£16.8 billion), and earnings of Fr2.1

billion (£240 million), versus Fr9.2 billion (£1 billion). The decline in earnings reflected charges relating to

The privatisation of France Telecom, which became a legal corporation on January L in accordance with the July 1996 Telecommunications Act. has been a key aspect of President Jacques Chirac's economic policy. The timing of the offering had been delayed until France Telecom became more competitively structured. A few years ago the French

telecommunications market was seen as less open than other European countries when it came to foreign competition. In addition, thousands of workers went on strike in 1993 to protest a

change in France Telecom's statemonopoly status. Biggest stock To establish a niche as a global operator France. Telecom has: among its international activi-

formed

gig play

downtur

ties. formed Global One with Deutsche Telekom AG and Sprint Corp. the American long distance operator. That venture had sales of over \$500 million

(£509 million) last year. Although France Telecom is: now considered the only operator in France with significant market power, a number of French and foreign players are entering the fray. Such competition raises questions about the outlook for the soon-to-beprivatised former manapoly. France has an image as a high-tech leader in telecommunications and France Telecom was relatively entrepreneurial for a state company." comments Mel Horwitch, formerly a professor at the Theseus Institute, a graduate school subsidised by France Telecom. "But will they remain innovative in the pri-



Rome gets green light at last

ITALY has been accused of dragging its feet in imple-menting EU directives on the liberalisation of its telecommunications market, John

But the Prime Minister, Romano Prodi, and Antonio Maccanico, the Minister for Posts and Telecommunications, have brought the country largely into line with EU requirements as managers at Stet, the state-run telecommunications giant, prepare for privatisation. Stet's flagship, Telecom Ita-

lia. has been a remarkable success story compared to the bleak record of many other big public concerns in Italy.

Signor Prodi and his Treasury Minister, Carlo Azeglio Clampi, are keen to begin privatisation of Stet by the autumn to bring in muchneeded revenue.

Signor Prodi appears well on the way to overcoming political objections to privatisation that have been raised

by both the National Alliance domestic and international and the Marxist Communist Refoundation parties.

Signor Maccanico sees liberalisation of the market as essential to show potential private investors that Telecom italia and the other Stet companies can function in a competitive market. A government decree that takes effect this month covers at least three EU directives linked to liberalisation, bringing Italy largely into line with Brussels'

A further directive concerning satellite down links has to be approved by the Rome Parliament.

Telecom Italia's net income was up by 53 per cent last year, compared with 1995, an increase of 21.4 per cent. Sales of new services were 1.256 billion lire (£472 million) last year, up 78 per cent on 1995. Telecom Italia's sophisticated

network is designed to carry out massive traffic flows and provide a wide spectrum of innovative services Since Telecom Italia was

established in 1994 it has opened 22 offices oversess. Through its subsidiary TeleMedia International it is active in Latin American markets, especially Chile, Bolivia, Argentina and Peru, offering multinational business customers high-quality data transmission. outsourcing and messaging services.

The company is also active in the new Eastern European economies and in the Middle

Stet's mobile telephone subsidiary TIM has become a European market leader in the sale of its innovative prepaid rechargeable telephone card for inserting in

with a microchip containing all the clients' data, the assigned telephone number and two security cards. The card monthly fees and telephone Signor Maccanico reiterat-

The card comes equipped

ed on Monday that the Government still plans to hold a special competition for the allocation of the third mobile telephone production licence in Italy, following those issued to TIM and Omnitel. A consortium called PCN

that hopes to obtain the new cellular licence includes British Telecom, Albacom, the Banca Nazionale di Lavoro and Mediaset, part of the empire of the media mogul Silvio Berlasconi. An American company,

GTE, last week withdrew its interest in the consortium, blaming what it saw as the slow pace of liberalisation of the telecommunications mar-GSM handsets, the TIM card.





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telephone-card for all GSM

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with 50,000 line worth of prepaid telephone calls, tax included.

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firms are reluctant to invest when long

term profits are not guaranteed

t can cost £17 per page to send a fax from China and telephone calls are as much as £1.57 a minute, because mainland China's telecommunications are still in their development stage and have been hampered by bureaucracy.

There is also a lack of understanding by the Government that Western companies need to be confident of making long-term profits before they will invest. China is burdened by an enor-

mous population and wide disparities in wealth between the wealthy east coast and poor country areas.

However, there are signs that changes are occurring slowly. The reintegration of Hong Kong may have a great impact as telecommunication links between China

and Hong Kong are plentiful. China's Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPI) regulates all issues concerned with telecommunications. Above the MPT are the policy making body and the legislative body, respectively the State Council and the People's Congress. In wireless communication and large scale projects, the State Regulatory Committee and the State Planning

Commission are also involved in key decision making.

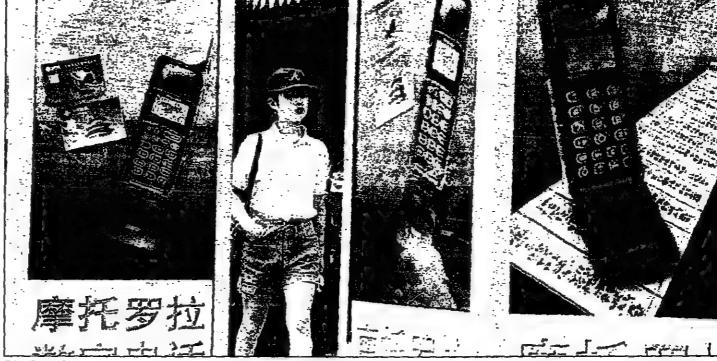
Although China Unicom was launched in 1994, and recently began cellular services, the MPT has impeded its progress by regulating prices to such low levels that it is difficult for Unicom to expand. Driving the level of return down has also deterred foreign investment and stifled competition.

China has further stated that it will not open its telecommunications market fully to foreign companies because of the immaturity of its market, which may delay its entry into the World Trade Organ-The country does not allow

foreign companies to operate telecoms networks in its domestic market, but has allowed them to sell equipment in China il the foreign firms manufacture locally and transfer technology. Yet, China will allow Hong Kong to continue operating its own

telecommunications network after the takeover in July. Hong Kong and southern China have the most frequently used telecoms networks

This is exemplified by the extent of illegal mobile phone use from



The face of new China: telecommunications are becoming more accessible to a backward population as the economy there develops

neighbouring Guangdun province. which is seriously disrupting air traffic control in Hong Kong. This year, mobile phone sub-

scribers will exceed ten million and they will reach twenty million by the year 2000. The Beijing Telecom-

cently signed an agreement for a "One-Stop-Shop" service offered by Telstra and another carrier which provides a high-speed service with-in and across national borders and with a single source of ordering, billing, fault-reporting and custom-

China's first large-scale Internet communication network went on line last December. The Japanese company NEC, in co-operation with the Sino Information Centre, provided the host computer and all the software, valued at one billion yen. There are expected to be 20,000

users by the end of this year, and 80,000 by 2000.

The village telegraph office, which has hardly changed since the 19th century, will not change

State planners have said that prolonged and sustained invest-

developing Minitel, GSM and ATM.

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ment is needed in these impover-

in urban areas, the telegraph system has been rapidly replaced by mobile and fixed telephones and fax machines. Perhaps the most surprising development has been the agreement recently signed be tween China and Taiwan, allowing. an underwater cable to be built across the Taiwan Strait linking the rival countries.

acsimile machines are expected to soar to ten mil-lion owners by the year 2000 from only 900,000 last year. There are 20 fax machine manufacturers in China and most of them assemble imported parts. Domestic production can only keep up with a fraction of demand.

Companies from all over the world are active in China. Japan's NTT has established its first joint venture in China with Shanghai NIT Communications Engineering, which will direct and train in matters related to the management. and operation of the cellular telephone industry.

Ericsson has signed an expansion contract with the Shandong PTA. The \$30.7 million (£19.5 million) contract will expand the Shandong network to a total capac-

ity of 500,000 subscribers. Potential is still vast. The Chinese Government has plans to expand its telephone capacity to 70 million by the year 2000.

Big players hit downturn after deregulation

THE UNITED STATES

a good idea at the time . — to funnel almost \$5 million (£3.2 million) into the campaign war chests of strategically placed Congressmen and Senators while they were crafting a massive Bill aimed at deregulating the American telecommunications

But now, more than a year after the Bill became law, the American Telephone and Telegraph Com-pany must be having second thoughts. While its competitors are doing well under the new rules. AT&T is facing declining profits and share values.

Though it was the largest

at last

single contributor, AT&T was outbid collectively by the local telephone companies in the quest for Congressional favours. These gave more than \$10 million (£6.3 million) to politicians in the five years leading up to the passage of the Bill and it is they who have reaped the rewards.

In theory, the Telecommunications Bill set out to create a level playing field. Long distance telephone companies would be permitted to compete in local markets, while the seven Baby Belis and GTE would be able to gain access to the long distance and international networks. The bill also sought to promote competition among cable television companies, and raised the limit on the number of radio and television stations that broadcast companies could own.

in practice, however, local loyalties have made it hard for AT&T to penetrate the Baby Bell markets, while price wars with MCI, Sprint, and a swarm of upstart small long-distance providers have nibbled

away at its main business. Meanwhile, other American companies are looking overseas for dividends, see ing opportunities in forthcoming European deregu-Nynex and Vlatel have both been expanding rapidly, and have now joined with British Telecom, MCI and others as signatories to the

Fiberoptic Link Around the Globe (FLAG) agreement. which will connect three continents and 12 countries. Mergers and acquisitions in the American industry

are abounding, with the \$20 billion (E12.4 billion) deal between BT and MCI representing the tip of the iceberg as companies consolidate their positions. The Holy Grail to which

many are steering is the "one-stop shopping" for the consumer, embracing the provision of television, telephone, and from one source.

The technology now exists which will make this possible, and the Telecommunications Bill has stripped away most legal obstacles. Yet for all the frenzied

change, the American telecommunications revolution seems to have had little impact on the consumer. It may be ten years or more, say the experts, be-

fore there is any good news

activity on the stock ex-

for the man in the street. This comes as no surprise to the average American. It was, after all, the corporations and not the consumers who paid their political dues to Congress. Except, as AT&T discovered, there is such a thing as Murphy's Law - what can go wrong.

BILL NORRIS

We spend millions of France Telecom. Let's build dollars a year the world to come. to improve France Telecom puts its capacity for word-of-mouth innovation into action with one goal in mind: making the world a smaller place technology. for our customers. France Telecom invests over a billion dollars each year in research and development, most of which is done through CNET, a world leader in telecom studies and Europe's largest communications research center. Its prime objective is to provide customers with innovative services and to improve France Telecom's performance through new network solutions. As an example, CNET was instrumental in

Looking ahead to open market AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA could find itself dealing with two massive telecommunication stock market flotations this year as both of the country's telephone carriers seek a listing on the Australian stock exchange, Rachel Bridge writes. First is likely to be the

partial privatisation of Telstra, formerly Australia Telecom which the Government hopes will raise at least A\$8 billion (£3.8 billion). Despite fierce opposition in the Federal Parliament, the Government narrowly succeeded in getting approval for the sale and is hoping to sell

off a third of the group.

The country's second carrier Optus, in which Cable & Wireless and BellSouth Corporation each have a 24.5 per cent share, is also hoping to make its stock market debut this year provided it is able to resolve litigation over its pay-TV arm, Optus Vision, in time. Analysts say that up to

51 per cent of the company. including a 25 per cent stake currently held by local industrial group Mayne Nickless. may be floated, raising up-wards of A\$2 billion (£952

The two public listings coincide with a year of upheaval for the Australian industry. which is set to be completely deregulated from July I.

The Government took the first step towards deregulating the market in 1991, when it allowed Optus to begin offering long distance calls in competition with Telstra and enabled the UK's Vodafone to become the country's third

mobile phone operator. This time, however, the entire market, wurth A\$20 billion (£9.5 billion), will be opened up to outside competi-

Communications Minister Richard Alston is hoping that competition will translate into lower bills for consumers.



THEATRE ! Hurlyburly, a wild portrait of sleazy-smart California, impresses in (and



■ THEATRE 2 Vivid dialogue but little coherence in **Black Mime** Theatre's Mourning Song



■ THEATRE 3 Broadway may be musicals-led. but serious plays are flourishing on New York's smaller stages



TOMORROW. The Bard gets updated: read Geoff Brown on Romeo and Juliet and the other new films

THEATRE: David Rabe's fine play defies a bomb scare. Plus energetic confusion and a short but sweet revival out of) the Old Vic

Out of the jungle into the park

as the curse of Mac-beth responsible? programme-note that he took the title of his wonderfully wild if sometimes woolly portrait of the Californian drink, drug and divorce set from Shakespeare's most chilling opening scene. One witch tells the others she will meet them when the hurlyburly's done, when the battle's lost and won", adding that the rendezvous will be "the heath". Well, a bomb-scare meant that the audience ended up ban-ished from the Old Vic and gathered round a bench and a tree opposite the theatre. Hurlyburly was finally done, not on a heath, but in a tiny, grotty park normally occupied by winos.

It was impossible not to admire the resilience of Rupert Graves, Susannah Doyle and Daniel Craig as they defied the din of the traffic and ensured that we who were standing or kneeling round them did not miss Rabe's sad, funny denouement. But then the play would be worth attention if it had been relegated to the bottom of a plague-pit in Mortlake. It has its implausibilities and pretensions, but it is still hard to understand why so energetic a piece has taken 13 years to cross the Atlantic.

Hurlyburly Old Vic

Rabe's best-known plays -Sticks and Bones, Streamers, The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel - involve the human disasters caused by Vietnam. Hurlyburly is different, yet not wholly different. Its portrait of sleazy-smart Califor-nia leaves you feeling you have been parachuted into a subtropical war zone variously populated by the lost, frightened, callous, angry. vicious and reptilian. Its people are members of the movie subculture, and usually high on something. whether it is coke, booze, sex, psychobabble, narcissism, misogy-ny or paranoia. They inhabit the Hollywood jungle, and the Holly-wood jungle inhabits them.

n so far as there is a plot, it involves Graves's Eddie, a casting director, and Andy Serkis's Phil, the troubled excon he tantalises with promises of movie roles. It is hard to believe that two such different men would share the time of day, let alone long chats and, it seems, the odd woman: but maybe that is Rabe's point. Eddle is adrift in the Californian shallows and threw away his PLENTY of energy has gone

moral compass ages ago. It amuses and vaguely reassures him to collect people: the runaway girl a chum brings home as a sexual "care package"; the tart he watched performing fellatio on a film star in front of her child; Phil. behind whose tattoos seethes a murderous

Does Rabe convince us that somewhere inside Eddie is a serious man appalled by the neutron bomb, political corruption and the frivolity of TV and film? Not really. But he has written a role that the excellent Graves invests with a nice mix of scorn, ennui and fastidious self-absorption. Indeed, Wilson Milam's cast is as strong as I recall Walken, Keitel, Ivey, Weaver and William Hurt being in 1984. Serkis brilliantly catches Phil's baffled violence: Stephen Dillane and Dan-iel Craig bring Eddie's friends to shrugging, sneering life, and, though the men's roles are bigger and better than the women's. Elizabeth McGovern finds emotional need as well as brittleness in his girlfriend. They all deserved the standing ovation they received in that funny little park. They had served the play and the theatrica

BENEDICT



Casting director Eddie (Rupert Graves) brandishes the bottle at Andy Serkis's Phil and Susannah Doyle's Bonnie in Hurlyburly

Much ado about not much ren, the over-mothered and

into Mourning Song (Cochrane), and plenty of thought, but ... The thought has been directed towards indicating and linking various experiences of distress, mostly to do with death and suffered by women, and the energy of the five female performers of Black Mime Theatre is displayed for all to see. And yet. The links are not strong;

that is to say, the cast switch rapidly from playground bullies to London tarts to grieving mothers to office cleaners, but no great gain is derived from this expertise. in truth, much confusion comes of it what are the tarts doing here, for ingramme insists that one of the hree stories presents a racist killing, no indication of this appears on the stage.

This is a pity because when the devised texts - coordinated and directed by Denise Wong - concentrate on one story for more than half a minute, there are vivid and effective incidents. Dar-

LONDON FRINGE

tongues. The third story tells

of a Vietnamese boat-person

who becomes a cleaner in the

West and dies. But her experi-

ence on the boat is muddled

and too little is made of her life

Neither did I extract much

information about preparing

NEW YORK

THEATRE

al room where a debate rages.

When Longford's eloquent

dramaturge Tracy reveals that

she is the author, and not R. E.

Rodgers's bullish "play-

wright", who has been loping

around the room countering

their barrage, the lefties are

shocked. Tracy argues force-

fully but in vain against their

paternalism and sacred cows.

One may laugh helplessly at

the colour and gender-blind

revision ultimately forced on

her, with Rodgers in drag

declaring that "Mrs Beetho-

ven ghost-wrote the Seventh

Symphony while Ludwig was

away celebrating Kwanzaa."

IRISH THEATRE

This little bit of exposition is put

across with breathtaking speed in the

play's opening moments. This leaves

the remaining two hours or so to

O'Kelly's cinemascope telling of the

story of the Catalpa. a whaling ship secretly re-routed to Western Australia by Irish-American activists to rescue six 19th-century Irish freedom fighters

The story certainly has epic scope -

incarcerated there.

a welfare state."

in exile.

bullied schoolboy, nerves himself to step into a bath (represented by his mother's arms) and lowers his head below the water surface. This is calmly, simply, sorrowfully shown. Two staves serve as a coffin: the pallbearers turn through a right angle, lower the staves and are immediately standing

at a graveside. Lisa Vandy's design gives us a shallow semicircle of upright canes, which leaves a decently spacious area for the company to roll and jump and tumble. But above these hangs a ciuster of screens, assorted in shape and fracturing the images projected on them. Look at us, they seem to say, aren't

The company wear baggy jeans bulging with knee pads under purple sweaters bulg-ing with elbow pads. They dense but undetermined. The Outside is short (barely half an hour) and can be the tacitum maid, describes it,

simply summarised. But Susan Glaspell's style of writing leaves a sense that just around the corners of what she reveals lie untoid mighty dramas. If she had so wished, you feel, she could have built the story of the drowned sailor, or the silent maid, or the misogynist

oneself for death, nor even New Yorker, into the sort of slow-beating, heart-churning what to do when a son. partner or mother dies. Someplay that was to bring fame to Eugene O'Neill. times the five move or sing in In 1917, when this play was unison, sometimes not. Somewritten, she and O'Neill were times the contrast between organising the Provincetown those who are moving and Players on Cape Cod. The those who remain tensely programme prints a map of motionless creates a fine tabthe area, and even if this is not leau. At other times the constrictly necessary, it is interest-ing to see how the northern trasts create a fine nothing in particular. So much energy. extremity of the cape bends like an arm to protect the little At the Orange Tree Room.

but the sand dunes that bar the ocean are themselves a threat. Woods hold the movng hills from burying Provincerown but dour Mrs Patrick finds a grim satisfaction in watching the sands

slipping down over the trees. Here is a landscape ripe for use as symbol, where even the man-made features are put to use: Mrs Patrick's new home was once a life-saving station but is now disused. She wishes to cut herself off from something painful but is eventually told that this is cutting her off

Glaspell's dramatic method here is strikingly different from the ampler style of her slightly later Inheritors, still playing in the Orange Tree's main house across the road. The first characters to appear are three sea-farers. I cannot identify them more clearly; former sailors, perhaps, fish-

ermen, life-savers. Paul Williamson's Captain occupies almost half the play trying to resuscitate a drowned man in front of us, but this seemingly indirect entry into the pasts of Jan Carey's Mrs Patrick and her maid in fact takes us boldly to the very heart of it.

In a short play an author cannot afford to hang around. but it is a mark of Martin Wylde's straightforward direction, and especially the quality of Anna Kirke's performance as the stricken Allie, that her line, That boy there - his face - uncovered something," sends a shiver of excitement up the spine. We learn only a little about them: but the sense of lives stretching out beyond the play is strong. There is a Portuguese sailor who might he here just to make a sign of the cross over the body. I kept thinking of the stories of Katharine Mansfield, with the sense they give of being fragments of life. brightly, briefly illumined.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Death and the maidens: Tracy Bickley and Mai Yu in Black Mime Theatre's all-female Mourning Song

Race, slaves and the mercy of quality



Booking now open

WHILE New York waits for a slew of musicals to open in April, serious drama is percolating at small houses. Downtown at the New York Theatre Workshop, David Rabe's A Question of Mercy looks at assisted suicide, while midtown at the American Place Theater, Jonathan Reynolds satirises liberalism in Stonewall Jackson's House.

The latter, produced on a shoestring and directed by Jamie Richards, is long overdue and wickedly funny. Henry S. Dunn has designed a panelled highway billboard whose segments revolve to show painted interior rooms, as a black docent (Lisa Louise Longford) leads two white couples on a tour of the Confederate general's Virginia home. "Terrible thing, slavery," Ron Faber's craggy-faced Barney solemnly intones. "We're from Ohio, so we know." Beguiled by Barney's idyllic description of his farm. the docent suddenly asks, "Can I be your slave?" Then the second couple, from Alabama, decide they want to be his slaves, too. Exeunt omnes. The scene turns out to be

THE MOVIE pitch, at least since Robert Altman deployed it with such satirical precision in The Player, is approaching the status of an independent literary genre. In Donal O'Kelly's Catalpa, the pitch, that one-shot attempt to reach inside the heads of those with the power to get a film made, attains new heights, as a bedsitbound cineaste flies us through his dream movie in a marathon of dazzling theatrical storytelling.

O'Kelly, best known for his part in the film version of Roddy Doyle's The Van, stars in a piece (which he also wrote) as Matthew Kid, the black sheep of an Irish family. Too unruly for the professions, too haughty to brownnose the Hollywood types, he seems to have blown his chance to have his movie "greenlighted" and has returned home disconsolate.



Life class: A Question of Mercy ponders assisted suicide

Catalpa

Gate Theatre, Dublin

Knight, he metamorphoses into a

squawking seabird introducing a bud-

But there is nothing firmly about the way Tracy's liberal mentors keep her on their

A Question of Mercy is based on an essay, and al-though the title hints at the author's bias, Rabe offers a complex portrait. Zach Grenier's stolid Dr Robert Chapman is approached by an acquaintance, Stephen Spin-

Dazzling pitch for a

whale of a movie

ella's deferential Thomas Ames, with a desperate plea. Thomas's lover Anthony is suffering with Aids. They want the doctor to "intervene". Specifically, Anthony asks Chapman to coach him on how to take some contraband pills. Faced with Juan Carlos Hernandez's charm and politesse as Anthony, any doctor

cian's "consoling formality and regard himself as "an instrument, like a forceps or a scalpel". Chapman even agrees to administer an injection if Anthony fails.

Despite a script peppered with monologues and phone calls but little action. Douglas Hughes's production gathers momentum and fascinates. The principals, who include Veanne Cox as a friend of the gay men, sip tea in front of an immense, red, Rothko-like painting as they discuss alibis and autopsies. The tension builds like a crime thriller in which you root for the victim's death. These are civilised

people, Rabe suggests.
There are a few problems. A comic doorman grows tedious, and Cox's friend has the warmth of a prison matron. But Spinella brings out the poignancy in a character who irritatingly fretful. And Hernandez, seated next to a slide projector clicking away pictures of Anthony's life, makes the suicide anempt harrowing. Death, it turns out, not for the civilised.

EDWARD KARAM

get-busting helicopter shot, or a whale and her calf exploding from the ocean's depths. A curtain billows into the sail of a whaling ship, and O'Kelly begins a series of changes that see him acting and sounding like every beast and gadget that a 19th-century sailor might

The drama is punctuated by references to the shot to be employed, but while acknowledging the powerful language of cinema, O'Kelly and the director. Bairbre Ni Chaoimh, coyly stage something to rival any special effects Hollywood could offer. The contrast between megabuck industrial light and magic and this single actor's ability to conjure whole oceans from a sheet and a pillow is never overstated. but never less than glaring.

LUKE CLANCY

THE MYSTERIES

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BOX OFFICE

love, sex and death on two continents and an ocean - but there is no doubt that its most colossal aspect is O'Kelly's performance. Naturally, O'Kelly plays all the human characters in the piece, but he does much more. With the help of live keyboard playing by Trevor HAY MARCHA

TOMON

The Bard Bar

updated by

Cleoff Brown

Juliet and t

other new file

sweet revi

JAZZ 1

Justice for Billy Strayhorn: high time that Duke Ellington's collaborator is given his due



Fats Waller is only moderately well served by a new touring show of his songs

THE



Sex appeal, of the teenybop variety, is the main plus for 3T. the new Jackson family group



STAR Meissner is being paid to do what he enjoys most - dance with the Royal Ballet

Power behind Duke's throne

IAZZ: Clive Davis on the short elusive life of Billy Strayhorn, Duke

Ellington's pianist and a fine composer in his own right

veryone knows that Take The A-Train is a Duke Ellington tune, just as Take Five is Dave Brubeck's. Well, no. Take Five, that most mis-attributed of all modern az themes, was actually written by Bribeck's elegant saxophonist, Paul Demond: Similarly, Take The A-Train was the work of one of the multimeresting but least familiar of jazcomposers, Billy Strayhorn — a pialist who spent most of his career in he all-consuming shadow of his frind and samployer, Edward Ken-

nely Ellingion. traybora died of cancer in 1967, only 51. In the three decades then the most evocative of his miodies — Chelsea Bridge, Blood Cont. Isfahan - have become as repected a part of the canon as his mintor's own pieces. His magical balad Lush Life, popularised by Nit King Cole, is a sliver of wee all hours melancholia worthy of

The last five years have seen the ergence of what amounts to a chage industry, producing a flurry recorded tributes by artists as verse as his confidente Lena orne and the saxophonist Joe enderson. Yet, considering his ple at the centre of the pre-eminent zz orchestra, he has remained a

habbornly clusive presence.
His anonymity owed something b Ellington's acquisitive person-lity. Though the bandleader once lescribed him as "my right arm, my left arm, all the eyes in the back of my head", Ellington (like many a bindleader) was not always scrupuleus in acknowledging his collabo-mors' contributions. But Strayforn's anonymity also seems to lave been the protective camoullage f a homosexual and care-society on viveur who preferred life away

rom the public gaze.
With the arrival of David Hajdu's [16.99], many of the gaps are at last peing filled. An editor on the American magazine Entertainment Weskly. Hajdu has done a prodigious job in tracking down his subject's friends, acquaintances and colleagues. If the musical analysis is under-developed (it would have been interesting, for instance, to lave learnt much more about trayhorn's techniques and his vowed interest in classical forms). Lajdu has delivered an absorbing nd well-rounded human portrait. John Lewis, planist with the everppular, quasi-baroque Modern 22 Quartet, recalls his first impreson on hearing a Strayhorn ar-

ALTHOUGH he tends to live on in

the public imagination as a rum-bustious vocalist and the leader of a

hard-swinging band called the Rhythm, Fats Waller was also a

prodigiously talented composer

and pianist. Any tribute package

needs to take into account all the

aspects of the man, including his

outsize personality, if it is to be

anything like a three-dimensional

Keith Smith's current touring

package scores highly in Martin

Litton's exquisite renditions of Fats's solo pieces, his strong strid-

ing left-hand and filigree right-

hand decorations vividly bringing

portrait.

rangement: "It sounded as if Stravinsky were a jazz musician. Ravel and Debussy were a more explicit influence on Strayhorn, whose formal training acted as a counter-weight to the intuitive genius of the

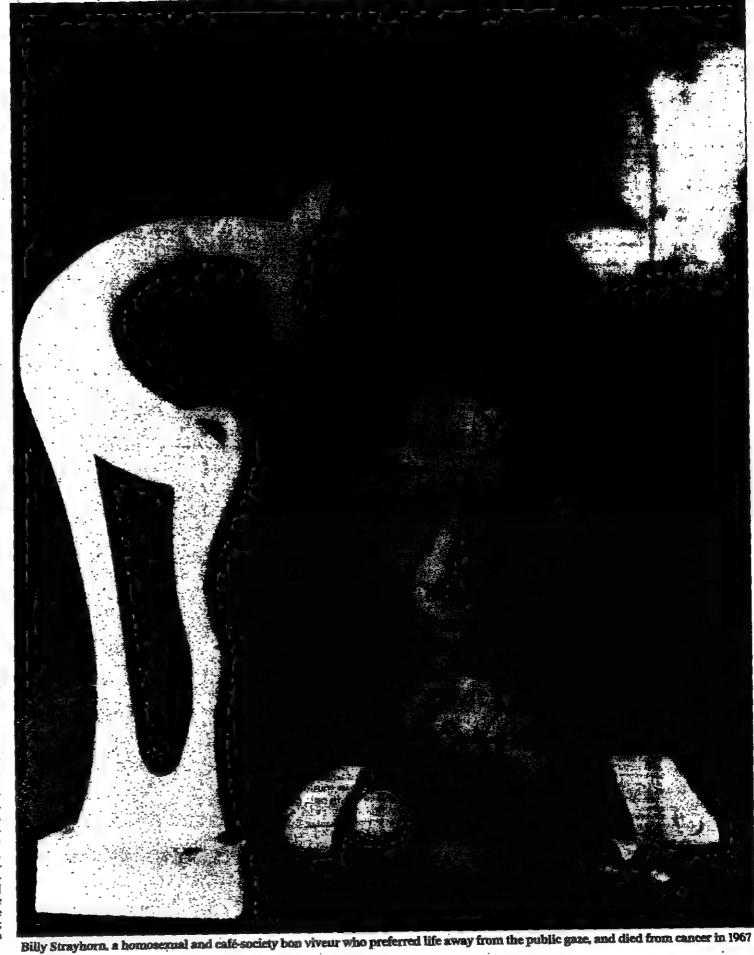
self-taught Ellington. While the latter occupied himself with the gruelling business of writing and keeping an unusually creative big band on the road between studio engagements, Strayhorn - a much less driven individual - acted as his cultural antennae, reading the books that the older man never had the leisure or inclination to read, listening to the composers that he had no time to

Hajdu sensitively sketches the pressures arising from the conflict between creative independence and material comfort, between Stray-horn's relative indolence and Ellington's boundless energy. The very fact that Strayhorn belonged to both a racial and sexual minority must have contributed to the drinking that undermined his health.

n striving to win approval from the "serious" music establishment, jazz fans sometimes turn their heroes into plaster saints, incapable of sounding a sour note or writing a dull tune. The most engaging of Ellington's recent biographers, James Lincoln Collier, went against the grain by speculating that, for all his unarguable talents, Strayhorn's penchant for luxuriant textures may have undermined the "masculine learness" of Ellington's best work: Take The A-Train, after all, was not

a typical Strayhorn piece. It is a question that Hajdu does not explore. Nor does he linger over the question of whether Such Sweet Thunder and the other suites that accounted for so much of the orchestra's output in the postwar ministures.

Whether Strayhorn would have flourished away from Ellington's influence is impossible to answer. The rare 1961 solo album, The Peaceful Side of Billy Strayhorn recently reissued on Capitol showcases some of his most memorable themes, including Passion Flower and Something To Live For. but the project is marred by lightweight piano playing and an horrendously schmaltzy choral accompaniment on Lush Life. The Duke's men were never quite the same away from his court; Strayhorn was probably no



Footsteps of the fat man

back to life pieces such as Handful of Keys and Smashing Thirds. Unusually, instead of playing these completely unaccompanied, Litton chose to work with the subtle drumming of John Armitage. perhaps unintentionally evoking the spirit of Waller's London Suite, the highlight of Fats's 1939 visit to Britain which was cut with just piano and drums.

Fabulous Fats Stables, Wavendon

Smith's quintet, which satisfyingly recreated much of the repertoire of the Rhythm. Clarinetist Trevor Whiting, who played as a teenage prodigy in the trio of Waller's exact contemporary, pianist Art Hodes, Litton is also the heartbeat of brought just the right Creole inflec-

tions into the band. Smith's burnished lead trumpet, occasionally flurrying into the high register, evoked the timing and tone of many of Waller's own brass players, and the group's choice of tunes showed just what an accomplished and wide-ranging composer Wal-ler was, especially in the seldom-

heard Prisoner of Love. The task of trying to convey Waller's singing and outsize stage

presence fell to Chicagoan singer Marilyn Middleton Pollock, and although physically well-qualified, the daunting nature of capturing Fats's ebullient personality made this the least successful element of the programme. Middleton-Pollock's expertise centres on the vaudeville tradition, epitomised by her BBC radio series on the subject. Waller's roots were in this same tradition, touring with a singer

called Katie Krippen back in the early 1920s, and his hundreds of recordings are steeped in the world of travelling revues. Yet somehow, Waller's real vocal warmth and humour slipped through the net. Middleton-Pollock's enthusiasm,

vigorous movement and elaborate stage costumes failed to make up for consistently poor intonation. Waller may have lampooned many of the songs he sang, but even fortified by the gin bottle, his innate sense of pitch never failed, and it was his very musicality that made his satires successful.

ALYN SHIPTON

Orders from the top brass

IF EVER there was a musician at the height of his powers, it is American saxophonist Joe Lovano. Long queues outside, and a standing-room-only crowd inside Ronnie Scott's gave some indication of the reputation he has built over the past decade, but it was the quality of the attention focused on him once he stepped on the stage - a fierce expectation. an almost palpable determmation to savour every note he played - that marked the occasion as something special.

Previous Lovano visits have seen him contributing his cultured, smoky tenor either to the punchy, rock-tinged jazz of guitarist John Scofield or to the subtle interweaving improvisations of drummer Paul

> Joe Lovano Ronnie Scott's

Motian's trio alongside the flickering guitar of Bill Friseli. but for this residency he placed himself firmly in the spotlight by fronting a local rhythm section: pianist Jonathan Gee, bassist Steve Rose and drummer Winston Clif-

His choice of material, too, demonstrated his determination to leave his individual mark on the proceedings. Given that he was fronting an unfamiliar band, and that his latest album is a selection of Sinatra standards, he might have been forgiven for concentrating on the likes of Chicago and I'm a Fool to Want You all evening. In the event, he began with a tricky original. Topsy Turvy, and followed it with another, Birds of Springtimes Gone By.

was touched on with an almost reverent version of Jimmy Van Heusen's ballad, Imagination, but by then his audience was clearly mesmerised by his unique tonal qualities rather than by his set

Few saxophonists bring such a variety of textures to their playing Lovano will state a slow theme with an affectingly breathy, singing purity, then proceed to explore its possibilities by utilising everything from truity war-bles and bleary honks to rasping high-note keening, all unaffectedly woven into an intensely melodic improvisa-tion. He is also supremely adaptable, bringing an appropriately quirky, dignified bluesiness to a Monk tune one minute, then swooning rapturously through Mingus's achingly beautiful Duke Ellington's Sound of Love the

Lovano is, in short, the compleat saxophonist, and the long, warm ovation he received at the conclusion of his set (a compliment generally restricted at this club to Betty Carter) was richly deserved.

His toughest experience so far? "The Blue Skater in Ashton's Les Patineurs, espe-

cially at the end when you are

alone on the darkened stage,

pirouetting in the falling snow. The curtain comes

down, then rises again, then

finally comes down, but

there's no time to stop. You've

just got to stay in this tiny

spotlight, your mouth is full

of paper snowflakes, you've

never felt so dizzy and your

Is he a masochist to

specialise in these virtuosic,

legs are like lead."

CHRIS PARKER

Lust lost in space

STRAVINSKY'S good-humoured opera took some time to convince that it was big enough to fill the expanses of the Festival Hall, even with the audience clustered on the lower level. Barry Banks proved a tentative and relucant Rake in Act I, showing insufficient relish at the prospect of the fleshpots of London. His small, neatly produced voice was scarcely made for a house this size and oo many of the ironies of the Auden-Kallman libretto were obscured. He came into his wn during Rakewell's final selirium when, cursed with nsanity, the sweeter tones of adonis take over Tom's body ind mind. But the role denands a heftier and more eguiling tenor.

His sweetheart, Anne Truove, also needs a soprano who an provide much more than. he gentle tones of fidelity. stravinsky, after all, wrote the part for Schwarzkopf and provided her with a bravura aria at the end of Act I. Joan Rodgers, now with plenty of backbone to the voice, took this piece in properly flamboyant style. At other times she was careful to keep Anne as a demure country girl, although

OPERA

The Rake's Progress Festival Hall

the final lullaby to poor. crazed Tom was a bumpy ride. Around them there were plenty of confident performances, starting with William Shimell's suave Nick Shadow, who conceals all malice until the final, latal game of chance. Robin Leggate seized on the auctioneer Sellem, a gift to any tenor with good diction and a touch of the showman. Jane Henschel's Baba was also full of zest. Susan Bickley's Mother Goose came equipped with a feather boa used to lasson Tom as he is taken off for sexual instruction.

Andrew Davis, an old hand at this work from Glyndebourne, conducted the BBC Symphony with a featherlight, lyrical touch. The soloists deserve credit for dispensing with scores and playing up to one another whenever possible. Two Festival Hall suits solemnly pinned crayoned drawings, denoting change of scene and other



Joan Rodgers Trulove

essentials such as Mother Goose's cuckoo clock and Shadow's bread machine, on boards either side of the stage. These were the work of Davis Jr. He did not get a credit in the programme, but papa gave him a curtain call and the audience gave him a big hand. perhaps without knowing why. It might not have been Hockney's Rake, but young Master Davis has a lew years to go yet.

Heirs apparent

AND the Jackson Five begat 3T. This is a serious musical dynasty: the brothers Taj. Taryll and TJ are the sons of Tito Jackson, which makes them the nephews of Michael, "the king of pop". The lineage has hardly been a hindrance to their young career. Unde Mike signed them to his record label, produced their album, sang on their hit single and has been on hand to advise on their marketing as a

black version of Boyzone. The brothers are aged between 18 and 23 and play smooth contemporary American R'n' B grooves, yet it is difficult to see what makes them special. They move well enough but are more than a lew steps behind their uncle. They sing sweetly but are several vertebrae short of spine-tingling. The songs are catchy but Babylace and D'Angelo must reject better material before breakfast.

What they have in abundance is sex appeal of the kind that makes teenage girls scream. Every shake and wiggle is greeted with a fresh hut. As 3T are addicted to such movements there is a lot of screaming. There are cos-tume changes between almost JOHN HIGGINS | every song, including one on

3T Wembley Arena

stage in which the boys strip down to their botter shorts. Several members of the youthful audience appear close to

fainting at this point.

The hit singles Why and Need You are well received but strangely the loudest screams are reserved for a pointless version of Wonderwall and an utterly bizarre Jackson Five sequence in which father Tito joins them and they don 1970s afro wigs for a greatest hits medley.

It is possible 3T will turn out to have the talent to rival more famous members of the family and TJ, the youngest brother. is the most theatrical and probably blessed with the best voice, but they have a way to go. The support act, Shola Ama, a precocious 17-year-old purveyor of black British soul from Kensal Green, swung every bit as convincingly as

this brotherhood from LA. NIGEL WILLIAMSON

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament: JUSTIN MEISSNER

Age: 24 in April.

Profession: Ballet dancer.

How does a Brisbane-born boy come to choose ballet instead of surfing? "It was the usual male dancer's story of starting classes because my sister used to go. But also my parents were professional ballroom dancers." He became a Great British Hope at 16 when he sent videotapes of himself to the Royal Ballet School and was accepted. While there he won the Adeline Genée gold medal; also a scholarship from the Prix de Lausanne competition. The Lausanne scholarship funded my second year at the school, which was important because my parents wouldn't have been able

Wasu't it a bit grim in London so far from home? "I lived in a hostel, sharing a room with three other boys -not ballet students - but in fact I had a wonderful time, meeting so many people, hearing fresh ideas, broadening my outlook. I learnt I Dream.

to afford it."



wasn't alone. Besides, my parents had given up a lot for me to come. So I felt that I paid back their faith when the Royal Ballet company took me on in 1992."

Present repertoire: The Pakir and Bronze Idol in the current Covent Garden revival of La Bayadère. Future debuts are the Fool in Mac-Millan's Prince of the Pagodas and Puck in Ashton's The



physically painful roles?
"No, it's just that I've got a high jump, and fast, bouncy dance is very much my thing. Sometimes, though, I would really love to dance slowly."

So does he resent being typecast? "I love what I do, ithough eventually I would like to finish my career with more expressive, romantic roles. But at the moment I feel very lucky. I am being paid to do a job I enjoy. How

many people can say that?" NADINE MEISNER



■ CHOICE 1

Mitsuko Uchida plays piano music by Berg, Beethoven and Schumann

VENUE: Tonight at the Barbican



■ CHOICE 2

Tony Harrison's The Passion is toured by Northern **Broadsides**

VENUE: In Skipton today and tomorrow





■ MUSIC I

Valery Gergiev and his Rotterdam Philharmonic supply thrills and intensity at the Barbican



MUSIC 2

.. while Schumann's poeti oratorio', Das Paradies und die Peri, receives a rare outing

LONDON

EAST IS EAST Godong West End snowing to Ayub y han Din shight englabe larry drama compland Set 3.15. Set in 1970s Saltard where a Paristan patriation ramy tres to bring up his to children according to andestr

naction Royal Court Downstains (Duke of York's) St Martin's Late WC2 (0171-565 5600 Obcomment 7 50pm Than Noo Sal, 7 50pm, mals Sal 3 20pm the ben's March 28, 31s, Unial

MITSUKO UCHIDA The Jepanese planes — renovinad for her heat and notarabonal mierors alsons of a wide range of recentairs — gress fins evering sidelyping, rockel The program he shoulder Beng's short schalla in one movement. Sonuthannin Dowds-bundlendings and Beethaven's final pring constating 50 or 0 minor Tables. See Court Common Barbican Se Street SC2 (0171-635 2591 Fongri Tällem 🕏

SUMMER BEGINS The Four Corners Spacer contracts with Datus Eldnege's short corned, as in Barring E13 at the end of the Spatial Season Directed Johnshan Uplid who directed e, Umanan (John Wild Greekel)
Bondge's outstant Soring if Up at the
Bout ask (Aut

Dostmar Warehouse Eatharn Street,
Wat 0.171 (309 1732) Coons tonight
Tom Trier Mor-Sar 8pm mat Sat,
apm Unid Apm 5

CLART: David Haig Anton Lesser
Ida - Nitions in this expressionally
interesting drama about the ridship,
interesting the real and an almost asente parting **Wyndham's** Charmy Gross Road, WCC (0171-359 1799) Mon-Sat Som

muss Wed. 3pm, Sat 5pm ☐ GUYS AND DOLLS FEEDER EINE Entry And Service Hands of the Print Leader musical Final performances on Saladay Bask in July National Covers South Bask 7 15pm mais Tue Wee Thurs Jam Ser 20m and Tue Weet Thurs Jam Ser 20m and Tue Weet Thurs Jam Ser 20m and Jam □ HEATHOLIFF Parined by the crisis to each of the crisis to each time time Ord Richard's musical teachers the earth of the crisis to the critical crisis to the critical crisis to the critical no per March 39: Unit March 29

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Trecadero () (0171-434 0031) or West End (0171-437 4343)

◆ BOUND (18) Thyllier about two suttry lesbrans and a pile of Mob money, with

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TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts compiled by Gillian Maxwy

ELSEWHERE

BAGNOR Abelle-scared notes comes back from the trendfloor accompanied by a strange Cockney with anomine strates a pempertus secret Deadwood — A Soldier Returns to Aex Jones ciretied by Segmen Rayra is soon the surmed

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CHESTER Nor class kreemer conducts for Manchester Comerate in Handel's Water Music Soils Not 1 and two peets to Tournam Comeration is mented for Fure and Papatidal colorate.

THEATRE GUIDE

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April 2, Torn. Then Mon-Se Vied 3pm and Sct. 4pm. DROMANCE, ROMAND and Keith double-bill by Sam, Harman and Keith Harmann demas from a Schröder M Micraia Poir, and John Barrowi and a selection from The Water Music State Vivaid a Concertain Cinada and US Bach a Brandonousy Concerto complete the programme.
Town Hall (0161-907 9040) Torught. SKIPTON Northern Bracksides

presents six performances at these venues of Torry Hamson's The Pession, (2) on from the York and Wavefield Mystery Plays, deedled by

Same Putter Skipton Auction Mart (01756 792899: for gift and tampron, 7,30pm; Halling, Dear: Clough 9-artist (01422 250250), March 28 and 29, 7,30pm. Haracond Holms (0:13, 355 6337), March 50 and 31, 7 30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES Anthony of Offsey Kir. Sm.P. Choe I Saw a Bald 07.71-459 4100k Callio Leta Pissarro (0171-425 6660) Chris Beerles Gendarige Gryan (0171-239 7551) Goethie Institut Lows County and Pis Times (0171-411 3400) Grosvenon Four British Ariests (0171-Growener Foat British Arists (0171-629 0391) Alli George David Lovers 1 Signs in the Sky (0171-439 7319) Orleases House From Poal on the Assistance From Poal on the Assistance From Poal of 1422 0221) Portal Poal of Poal of 1433 0706 Take Poal Of 1433 0

ouse full, returns only one seets ovellable ests at all prices

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POPCORNS Sen Eton a businering cornect; about more inclined. A fairst moneque or motife gats in a component owner a chapter of it send, kilvers ignal playing by Partick C Nume and Dona Dawy, bitter in miler the control of the contr medeeds, Currice Bosses directs Apollo, Smitesbury Avend WI (0171-494 5070) Now providenty, Born, Opens April 2, Torn, Than Man Sai April, mats

Decined by Stoven Certer Transfer from a soft-out run at the Buddesell Gleiguid, Snaheshuty Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5085), Man-Saf, Sprii, mals Trusserd Sat ವಿವಾ

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partache by Kenneth Branagh, With Derek Jacobs Kate Wirslet, and Surprising faces in minor ports.

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Surprising Surprising (3171-359 3366)

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THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY DIR Jane Campion's joly elegant adaptation of Henry James, with Nicole Kidman as the independent American sucked into a

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DISNEYS

RRAUTY AND THE BEAST

weekend was striking but not surprising. He has long been a champion of Schumann's poetic oratorio, and in the Barbican's programme called it "unques-tionably one of his greatest works". The composer himself declared the piece to be

counterpoint teacher. As for the jibe at sacred oratorios, Mendelssohn's St Paul, written not long before, has more drama.

MUSIC: Mesmerising Gergiev: revived Schumann; and unclassifiable Martland

Charisma in full pelt

You don't get so far so fast by being Mr Demure. Part of the excitement of watching Gergiev, as the whole musical world is doing.

7 alery Gergiev is a huge

conducting talent, a

master backstage oper-

ator, and a figure of dark.

unsettling charisma. If that

makes him sound like a mix-

ture of Herbert von Karajan.

Peter Mandelson and Ivan the

Terrible, so be it. At 43, the

Russian runs the world's most

combustible vocal ensemble

(the Kirov Opera). Europe's

most improved orchestra (the

Rotterdam Philharmonici.

and his own brilliant career

Rotterdam PO/ Gergiev Barbican

stems from what might be called the Formula One factor: the aura of danger, of a man pushing himself beyond sensible limits, living on wits. nerves, instincts and (by all accounts) almost no sleep.

All that comes through in the way he conducts. The technique is stunning, but so highly charged that you could probably run the National Grid from a cable attached to his baton. The body is forever hunched forwards: the black eyes flashing; the face stern and lined beyond his years: the left hand perperually twitching. Strange heavybreathing noises are audible even when the orchestra is mezzo-forte. Gergiev in full flow is intensity in motion.

Yet the results are rarely

over the top in the old Russian manner. True, his view of Beethoven's Eroica Symphony was not the last word in classical restraint. The first movement was fearsomely accented and often held back melodramatically: the funeral march viewed retrospectively.

Valery Gergiev: "the aura of danger. of a man pushing himself beyond sensible limits" And what a vehicle the Rotterdam Philinarmonic has become for Gergiev's ideas. Its string sound is fabulously rich, as an impassioned account of Bartok's Music for Strings. Percussion and Celesta demonstrated. And its wind players are razor-sharp in anack vet melitiluously blended, as they showed in Stravinsky's Symphonies of Wind Instruments. In short, this must be the best Russian

One may question some aspects of its relationship with its maestro, Inaugurating an annual ren-day "Gergiev Festival" strikes me as carrying the cult of personality too far. But you can't deny the thrill in the music-making. And what would any British orchestra or opera house give to have Gergiev at its helm? Unfortunately, probably not enough.

RICHARD MORRISON

Paradise lost and

But "oratorio" is a misleading label for Schumann's work, which is unlike any other and deserves a classification all of its own. In its most attractive passages it resembles an orchestrated song-cycle: many of the best numbers have Lied-like simplicity. Schumann responded with directness to the story, which tells of how the Peri, daughter of a fallen spirit, gains readmission to Paradise by presenting at its gate the gift dearest to Heaven. She brings offerings from India and Egypt in

vain, but succeeds when she arrives from Syria with the tear of a repentant sinner.

The poem's fragrant imagery is marched in impid melodies and colourful orchestration, and in Sunday's performance the music gained by being stripped of its old-style Romantic varnish. Here, in spite of some lapses of intonation and ensemble, the score was played with thrilling clarity by the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique.

The cast of mostly word-responsive Lieder singers was led by a radiant Barbara Bonney, whose Peri was a suffering heroine in the tradition of German Romantic opera, Bernarda Fink's glorious, even-toned mezzo was ideal as the gatekeeper Angel, and much of the narration was done with elegance by the tenor Christoph Pregardien. A pity there was not more music for the bright soprano of Alexandra Coku and that the number evoking Syria's beauty was Gerald Finley's only big moment. But at least the excellent Monteverdi Choir had ample opportunity to shine.

JOHN ALLISON

Don't spare the decibels

"THE best rock and roll hand in classical music is how they were introduced on the London leg of their tour, and the description gives a fair idea of the unclassifiability of the Steve Martianal Band. This is not rock, nor classical - though many hand manbers are classically trained, Nor, mercifully, is it "fusion". Rather it is sui general gritty, volcanic, visceral. Helody and harmony do hot feature strongly, and textures are impossible to discern with

Steve Martland Band Queen Elizabeth Hill

such high amplification. In its energy is of a consumag. Blakeian sort: "Energy is exnal delight" is the poet's man that gives a name to the pice written for this tour. Eterol Delight, and its knife reper precision gives it a formidate

Blake was also the inspiation for Horses of Instruction: The tigers of wrath are wise. than the horses of instrus. tion", but the piece's ferocity suggests the wildest of beast, This was the only number no conducted by Martland a oddly, since it was the most complex rhythmically, though the ensemble managed it su perbly. For much of its it minutes. Horses is an early shattering assault, but its villence is controlled and the rhythmic compression of it! final stages winches up th

THE WORLD

tension almost unbearably. Re-Mix is much more of rave, with a touch of klezmer while Kick subjected English folksong contours to some rough treatment. Beat the Retreat, commissioned for last: year's Purcell tercentenary, similarly made use of a pounding ground bass, straddied vertiginously by a flugelhorn (Lee Butler), but both here and in Principia, one felt that sheer volume was being made to fill the gap left by flagging inspiration.

Dole Stages, by a Marilani pupil, Joe Duddell, made god use of this band's strength, Steve Reich's Nagova Marimas, though played virtuoscally by Colin Curri. demonstrated all too cleary the evils of amplification.

BARR' MILLINGTON

ART GALLERIES

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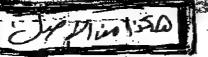
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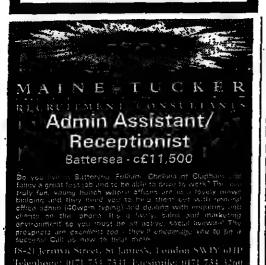
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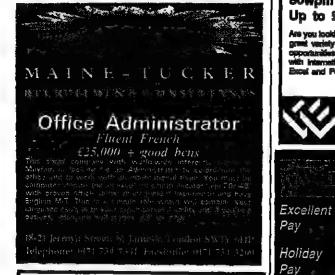
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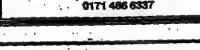
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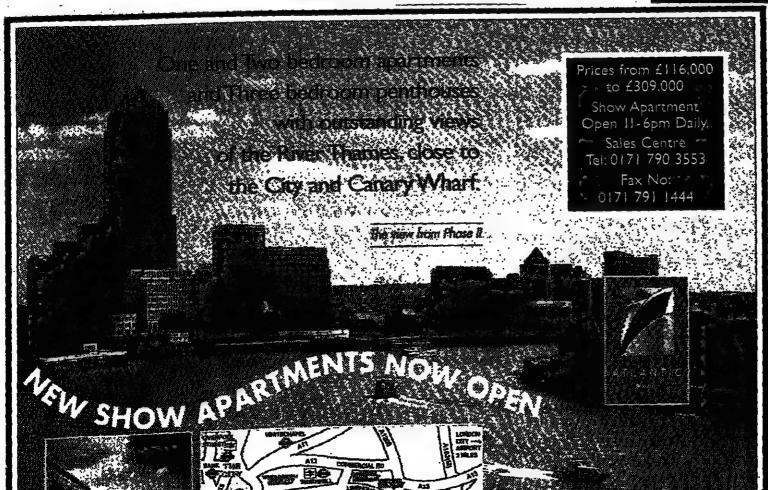
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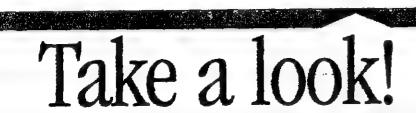
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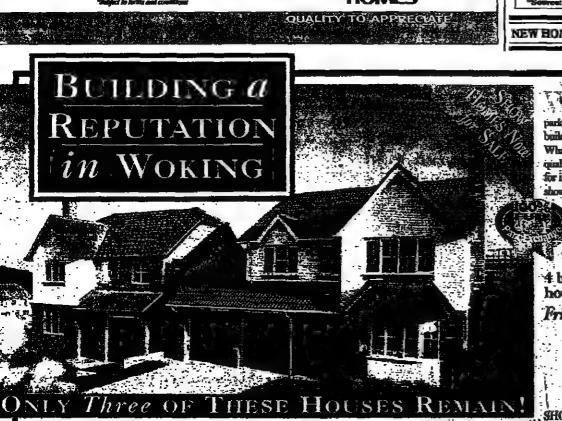
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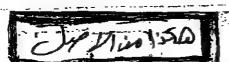
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·Doctor who heals the poisoned planet

Eve Ann Prentice talks to the expert who makes

contaminated land fit for habitation

aul Syms beings the dead back to life. He knows more than most the truth of the old northern saying, where there's muck, there's brass. he is one of the world's leading experts on the redevelopment and valuation of contaminated land. those skull-and-crossbones sites. poisoned by decades or even centuries of abuse.

Now Dr Syms, 50, has been appointed what is believed to be Britain's first Visiting Professor of Land and Property, at Sheffield Hallam University, In a project funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, he is researching how new life can be breathed into contaminated land so it can be used

He is also a man who has put more than money where his mouth is, by happily seeing his son live in a house on reclaimed land in Manchester while at university.

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So how does Dr Syms go about his mission to dig the dirt in places most of us would shudder to go near? And how sure can he be that Acontaminated land can ever be

made really safe? "The first thing is to look at the historical situation," he says. "You need to go out and walk on site to look at the historical aspects; was it once a railway goods yard, a gas plant or whatever? Sometimes there has been more than one use and you might have to go back 200 years to the beginning of the Industrial Revolution."

After researching the area's past, Or Syms says he can then judge which contaminants are likely to be found and where to look for "particularly nasty hot-spots". A mechanical digger is usually then sent in to "dig a hole" and the soil snalysed...

Once you have that," he explains, "you can decide what needs to be done. You may treat the contamination by digging it out and treating it on site, or if it is really bad, by removing the contamination completely

"Sometimes, even if you do all this, the residual risk perception is so great that you have to rule out residential development.

The worst case of contamination he has come across was at an old chemical works in Orester Manchester. "It had been a plant for 80



Poisoned-land expert Dr Paul Syms and the estate of 119 homes under completion at Salford, Manchester, on the cleaned-up site of an old tram depot which had been contaminated

had been run by a very large and but it was not found until the responsible company which made its records available. But there had factory next door was sold and the new owners wanted to put in a been a practice of burying chemical suspended floor and needed access drums in the soil up to four metres to the old dye factory." Or Syms is optimistic, though,

deep. The contamination came to light when the factory closed. It was that he is winning the battle to reclaim poisoned land. A housing an impossible site. A real eyesore. estate of 119 homes is nearing "At another site, an old dye completion at Salford, Manchester, works for 100 years, any waste dves had been emptied down a drain on the site of an old tram depot. which ran into the River Mersey. Deep maintenance pits had been filled over the years with zinc and You could see the coloured dyes in the river. The drain was cracked, cadminm from batteries, residues

from waste oils, waste ashes from local industry, lead and copper," he "Two or three years after work started on reclaiming the site,

work began on the houses." No one knows how much contaminated land there is in Britain. says Dr Syms, but he believes sites which have suffered significant harm probably cover fewer than 10,000 acres. "A very large amount has been reclaimed. In terms of urban regeneration projects, in the past 10 years land worth more than £1 billion has been reclaimed that is end value."

Dr Syms's appointment reflects the growing public concern about the environment.

His faculty at Sheffield has 60 members and 1,200 students and his job is sponsored by the Society for Valuers and Auctioneers.

Married with two adult sons, he is a valuer by training but has spent the past 15 years advising on how

down to a question of risk - actual and perceived risk".

Actual risks are where, for example, there is a danger that the foundations or water supply will be contaminated if a certain site is built on, or there is a possibility of atmospheric fallout from chemical

Then there are the perceived risks - when people are not happy about having their homes near a landfill site from a chemical plant," claimed. He feels his work "comes

Environment has been regularly monitoring sites for the past 20 years and I am optimistic that the amount of derelict land is reducing." Dr Syms believes that the greatest risk in the future is from accidents. "I think the likelihood of more contaminated land being produced is unlikely."

"But the Department of the

One of the phenomena of which Dr Syms has to take account is called the Pica Syndrome, "where children take up handfuls of soil and eat it. But, he adds: The chances of a child with Pica becoming seriously ill is very remote; they would have to eat massive amounts of soil to come to harm in most cases."

The cost of reviving contaminated land varies enormously, but is usually between £150,000 and £300,000 an acre. "It used to be that digging it out and carting it away was the cheapest method, but now that is very expensive because there are fewer holes in the ground where you can take it.

There are other methods which are more selective, such as using microbes which occur naturally in the ground to digest the contaminants, and organic material is very



OUT OF SERVICE: a former Methodist church has gone on the market in Peasmarsh near Rye, East Sussex, with the proviso that it must not be used for religious purposes. The building, with planning permission for conversion to a 2-3 bedroomed bome, must also never be used as a dance hall, for gambling or the supply or sale of alcohol. Offers around £68,000 are being sought for the building, which also has permission for 2-3 reception rooms, bathroom, guest room with shower room, kitchen, courtyard, garage and garden. For information call Phillips & Stabbs in Rye on 01797 227338.

BATTLE ROYAL: a Devon hotel which has counted Churchill and The Beatles among its guests is to be converted to luxury retirement flats after an eight-year planning dispute. The Royal Hotel in Teignmouth became a near-derelict eyesore as local pressure groups campaigned for the building to remain a hotel. Now McCarthy & Stone have won permission to turn it into 72 retirement flats which are expected to sell for £60,00 to £125,000 each. Many of the apartments will have sea views. The building is separated from the sea by a short stroll across a green called The Den. The listed building will keep its elegant frontage, and a grand central staircase is to be restored. For information call Freephone 0800 919132.

AS THE Edinburgh Festival prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary this year, a huge apartment has gone on sale near the city's West End. The refurbished apart-ment has four bedrooms, one with en suite dressing room and bathroom, hall, drawing room, dining room, bathroom, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and shared garden. Offers over £158,000; information from Rettie and Co, Edinburgh on



Going for a song: Peasmarsh church

A new service makes the search for land for an ideal home much easier

The first time Paul Ma-son built his own home. finding a plot of land could not have been easier. He simply sold off his existing house and moved to a site at the bottom of the garden.

Next time, things were different. For two years he scoured the estate agents and local newspapers in Bedfordshire looking for a place on which to build. He finally settled on a quarter of an acre village plot which had been

Three years later, he and his family live in a 2,250 sq ft house with four bedrooms. four reception rooms and a playroom over the garage. Having designed the place himself, it book three-and-ahalf months to build using the timber frame method of con-

Mr Mason says: "We found it very difficult to find small building plots. There was virtually nothing around, and it would probably be even more difficult now."

Around 20,000 people a year are estimated to commission their own homes in the UK and for many of them the toughest hurdle is the first. buying a site on which to set

Associated Self Build Architects (ASBA) believe that for every person who built their own home last year, another five had their aspirations frustrated because they were unable to locate a plot.

Julian Owen, the director of ASBA, says: "It is not so much shortage of land because green-field sites are available for much bigger housing de-velopments. It's the one-off building plots in the country which are so difficult to come by, often because local authorities are reluctant to grant planning permission."

The South East is recognised as being the most difficult area to find modest-sized building plots, but in the South West, Bob Douglas, General Accident's land and new homes manager, says that he usually has 50 people looking for such sites at any one time. "The majority." he adds, "claim to be able to buy the land without selling their house, which makes it very

competitive." It was in response to the difficulties experienced by people looking for parcels of land that the self-build and renovation magazine Individ-



Michael and Emma Holmes on the site of their new house, located through Plotfinder

In pursuit of the perfect plot

ual Homes decided to set up Plotfinder, a database of both building plots and renovation opportunities for sale.

Plotfinder was launched to the public at the magazine's Home Building and Renovating Show last weekend, although readers have been able to avail themselves of the service since November.

o far, there are more than 4,000 entries on the database, but the number is expected to rise considerably. Gill Dawson, who is compiling it, says that empty plots of land either for single or multiple building account for 75 per cent of those entries. Most come with planning

permission. The rest of the database is made up of houses in need of renovation, and schools, barns, stable blocks, churches. railway stations, water towers and other buildings ripe for conversion. Information, constantly updated, is gathered from estate agents, landowners, developers, surveyors, government departments and

Since November more than 2,500 people have used the service, including Michael Holmes, the editor of Individual Homes. He spent eight months ringing around estate agents before finding a halfacre site in an Oxfordshire village through Plotfinder. The former orchard overlooks open countryside and is next to a 12th-century church.

Mr Holmes and his wife Emma paid £90,000 for the site and they expect to move into a four-bedroom "Georgian" stone house in September, designed by Four Square Design, of Berkshire.

There will be flagstones throughout the ground floor, reclaimed floorboards elsewhere, underground heating and sash windows. Cost of building the home should be between £100,000 and £110,000. By the time it is finished, he reckons the property will be worth about £330,000. The average cost of building your own home is £40 to £50 a sq ft.

People who want to use the Plotfinder service must ring a hotline and state which counties they would like details about. There is a subscription service - three months costing £9.99 with four mailings, and six months costing £16.99 with eight mailings. Prices vary

greatly. Plotfinder has advertised a site at Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, with consent for a detached house for more than £200,000 and one with permission for a three-bedroom detached house at Manea, Cambridge shire for £6.500.

There has been an ex-RAF transmitting station in Yorkshire set in two acres for £80,000 and a part-stone building available for conversion to a one-bedroom cottage in Hereford & Worcester for £10,000.

Eight serviced plots at Wigmore in the same county were put onto the database this month for £55,000 each by a company called Homelands of England. The firm was specifically set up last year to acquire small development sites, put in services, and then sell individual plots to those who wish to build or commission houses themselves.

David Rose, the marketing director, says that Homelands is the only company in the UK to deliver this service. More sites in Sussex, Kent, Bedfordshire and Suffolk are being

"We and our private-investor backers envisage a market of huge potential." he says. "Every plot we bring to market we know we will sell."

CHRISTIAN DYMOND ● Plotfinder's hotline is 0891-516 526 and calls cost 50p a minute. To subscribe. phone 01527-R36 600.

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CHANGING TIMES



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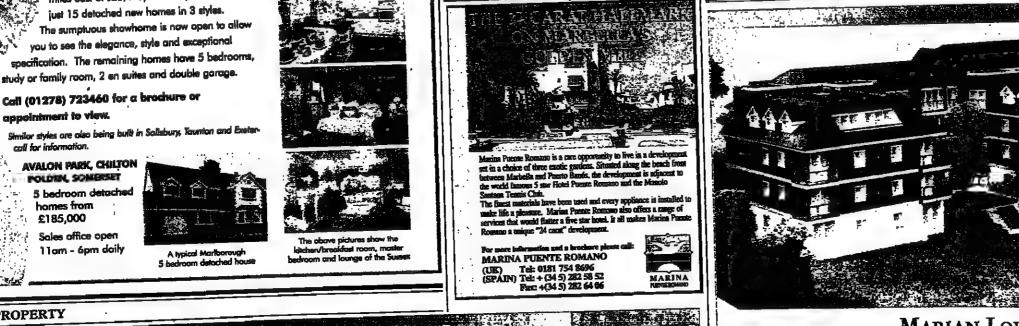
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-RACING: INSIDE BERTHS LESSEN PROSPECTS OF FIGURING IN DUBAI WORLD CUP FINISH

Draw leaves British party feeling low

IN DUBAL

, [10

4.

THE post position draw for ten-furlong races is often of no consequence but the fates yesterday conspired against Britain's five strong challenge for the Emirates Dubai World Cup here on Saturday.

Already stacked against the quintet is the dirt surface over which none except Bijou D'Inde has ever competed and his recent effort was but a pale shadow of the horse who After yesterday's draw ceremony, attended by Prince Edward, the effect of the alien

Suny Bay, a leading Grand National contender, will be partnered by Jamie Osborne rather than Graham Bradley, who rides most of Charlie Brooks's horses (Richard Evans writes). Brooks said yesterday: "It was a difficult decision, but Jamie rode him when he won at Haydock."

surface will be compounded by the kickback they are destined to experience in the scramble for a share of \$4 million.

The five are sandwiched between stalls one and seven. effectively locked against the inside rail. Siphon and Key Of Luck, a pair of front-running bullies, are certain to kick sand into British faces from stalls 12 and 13 respectively. A swift break will be essential to minimise the dry and forboding taste of the desert.

Collectively, Even Top (stall one), Singspiel (two), Bijou D'Inde (five), Flemensfirth (six) and Luso (seven) comprise as talented a team to have carried the torch abroad. But when Siphon, one of three

2.20 Keen To Piesse. 2.50 Abstone Queen. 3.25 Folet. 3.55 Marylabone. 4.30 Karisma, 5,05 Love Me

The Times Private Handicapper's top reting: 3.25 FAME AGAIN.

Our Newmerket Correspondent:

DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

/-0: £2.511: 5ñ (8 runners)

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)

2.20 SPRINGTIME LIMITED STAKES

(2) 8222 MASTER FOLEY 25 (6) N Literation 9-0 T 8 McLasophin 96 1 8 McLasophin 96 1 9 McLasophin 19 McLasophin 19

3-1 Wolfard's Well, 7-2 Knen To Places, 4-1 Master Poley, 9-2 Baryolus MH, 5-7 Sods, 15-1 Lock-Horn Ledy, 12-1 colors.

(22,374: 71) (14)

1 (12) 28-6 MELFTHAM CITY 26 (B.D.F.) I Barry 49-10... K Darley

2 (7) 3110 SENSE OF PROPRITY 5 (CD.F.S) 0 Nicholis 8-9-10

Alas Greens 85

1 (1) 90 CHANGUR 27 (D.F.S) E Alason 9-9-5. S DIOWERS

5 (1) 90-0 DASHING DAVICES 9 D Show 6-9-5... J Forming

6 (1) 40-0 DASHING DAVICES 9 D Show 6-9-5... J Forming

70

6 (1) HANST 1 Cathol 5-9-5... J Forming

71

6 (2) 40-0 DICHANGUR 11 (F.S) R Hollinshard 4-9-6. A Culture

90

90 0 DICHANGUR 11 (F.S) R Hollinshard 4-9-6. F Lyrich (2) 97

90 0 500- SER SILVER 9 DOC 1956 (F.G) N Tolkin 5-9-5. (MI Tulkin

10 (6) SER SILVER 9 DOC 1956 (F.G) N Tolkin 5-9-5. (MI Tulkin

10 (6) SER SILVER 9 DOC 1956 (F.G) N Tolkin 5-9-5. (MI Tulkin

10 (6) SER SILVER 9 DOC 1956 (F.G) N Tolkin 5-9-5. (MI Tulkin

10 (6) SER SILVER 9 DOC 1956 (F.G) N Tolkin 5-9-5. (MI Tulkin

11 (1) 4-85 ASSTONE DIJERN 25 N/3D-FS IP Perms 3-6-4 J F Egan

11 (1) 518- SUNET LADY 105 (D.S) J Eyn 3-6-0. I Williams

11 (1) 4-85 ASSTONE DIJERN 25 N/3D-FS IP Perms 3-6-4 J F Egan

11 (1) 518- SUNET LADY 105 (D.S) J Eyn 3-6-0. I Williams

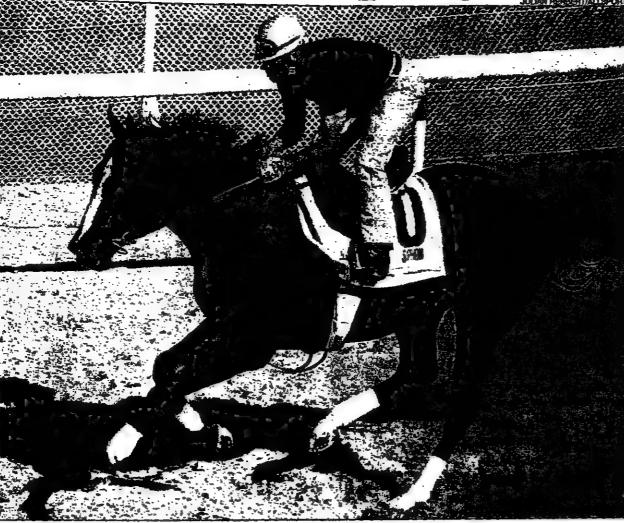
11-4 Second Of Privatly, 5-1 Ser Salver Stor, 6-1 Myslic Metd, 7-1 Soviet Lady, 18-1 Miletters City, Abstored Column, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANCERS M. Charmer, 9 wheners more 35 runners, 23.0%, N Trivier, 4 from 19, 21 1%, Mrs. M Revoley, 18 horn 97, 18.0%, J. Harris, 3 horn 17, 17.0%, T Emperby, 4 from 25, 16 0%, K Hagg, 5 from 32, 15 6%.

2.50 FORCETT PARK SELLING STAKES

5.05 Uille Acom.



American challenger Siphon, favourite for Saturday's Dubai World Cup, is put through his paces at Nad Al Sheba

American entrants, and Key Of Luck, representing Dubai, leave the stalls, they are ex-pected to make straight for the inside rail and establish themselves at the front.

The ramifications of any bunching will invaraibly be felt on the inner, where any horse gasping for air will instead ingest a mouthful of dirt. The only viable option involves retreating to the rear early on, but that would necessitate horses circling the field at the finish. This race has attracted 13 horses with the highest average rating ever assembled. Conceding precious ground at the start is therefore traught with danger. Mark Tompkins, who

trains Even Top, the mount of Richard Hills, acknowledged the point. There is a lot of speed on the outside," Tompkins said. "Since he arrived here two months ago my horse has done all his work behind a lead to prepare him for the kickback. He has worked well on a number of different surfaces but we certainly

BBC2

2.30: Exterior Profiles is not

the most proficient jumper

but he put in a better round

when third to Garnwin at

Warwick 25 days ago. That

represents the best chasing

form on show here. The

slower pace over today's long-

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ROSENCRANTZ

(3.35 Ascot)

Next best: Garawin

(3.05 Ascot)

Jultara, 15 lengths second to

Go Ballistic in this race last

year, has produced two rea-

sonable efforts this term and

is sure to be staying on. He would ideally prefer easier

ground. Who is Equiname is

not out of it judged on placed efforts behind Bell Staffboy

and Master Toby, but has not

raced before on ground this

quick.

er trip should help his cause

could have done with a better

Hills, who has enjoyed a successful winter riding in Dubai, also recognised the handicap of the inside berth. "Even Top is going to feel the sand in his face straight away. This is a big track with plenty of room to manoeuvre, but ideally we could have done ten." Helissio, majestic winner of the Prex de l'Art de Triomphe in October and the sole Prench raider, has been similarly compromised in stall

If the draw has frowned on British interests, Richard Mandella, the Californiabased trainer, was entitled to a wry smile. Mandeila has two prime candidates in Siphon. the 5-2 favourite, and Sandpit. second best in the betting at 7-2, yet he was not inclined to trumpet his chances. It was Mandella who, with Soul Of The Matter, all but lowered Cigar's colours in the inaugu-

Toby Baiding, the Weyhill trainer, was successful in his appeal yesterday against a £1,000 fine for the running of Polden Pride under the nontriers' rule at Exeter last week. A 30-day but on the horse was quashed, but Barry Fenton, Polden Pride's jockey, will have to serve a six-day ban.

ral Dubai World Cup running 12 months ago. The memories have clearly lingered with this most affable individual.

Mandella said after the draw: "Watching the replay of last year's race got my stom-ach up for this one. The World Cup has its own mystique, with all these horses from the corners of the earth. I believe it is properly named because there are dangers everywhere I look, I cannot split my two horses but what I do know is that two builets are always

better than one." Britain's trainers may have five bullets but after yesterday's draw the suspicion is they will all be staring down the empty chamber on Satur

THUNDERER

4.10 Tribune

4.45 Quiet Confidence 5.15 Spirit Of Steel

Carl Evens: 4,45 Quiet Confidence. 113143 GOOD TAKES 13 SEFF,G.S) (Mrs D Pobleson) 9 Hall 12-0

Parameteral household. Sp.-Bigure form (F.— lath, F.— position are in the state of the position are in the state of the position and the state of t

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

2.00 The Flying Phantom

3.05 GARNWIN (nap)

2.30 Major Nova

2.00 CITY HIDEX SPREAD BETTING MOVICES HURDLE

(£3,745: 2m 4f) (10 numers) 15 THE PLANE PHANTON 15 (S) IP Bates (Holdings) Lieb M Tomphon 6-11-7 R Goost 94
204412 PLANE PHOLER 20 (R.CDLP) (M Roberts M Roberts 6-11-2 P Horley (S) E2
20 ELIDE PATH 32 (B Shared) J Jackson 6-11-2 J Cohoran 67
2052 REPORT COMSTER 42 (B Advancy B De Naza 8-11-2 C Liberathys 95
PS40 LATAHAMB 14 (Sir Etie Pather) J Callond 6-11-2 P Horley (M P LORD) LOWE 11 LI Corbell) P Charmang 5-11-2 R R Johnson 69
80-855 WALTERS SICHSTAIN 28 (C Machin) C Machine 5-11-2 R Johnson 69
80-856 WALTERS SICHSTAIN 28 (C Machin) C Machine 5-11-2 R Johnson 69
10 ZPALDING 41 H Bounch) May 9 Tompholy 6-11-2 R Johnson 69
10 ZPALDING 41 H Bounch) May 9 Tompholy 6-11-2 R Johnson 69
10 ZPALDING 41 H Bounch) May 9 Tompholy 6-11-2 R Johnson 69
10 ZPALDING 41 H Bounch) May 9 Tompholy 6-11-2 R Johnson 69
10 ZPALDING 41 H Bounch) May 9 Tompholy 6-11-8 Reight 4-10-12 M A Picapand 95

BETTING: 6-4 Tan Pylog Plantom, 7-2 Desilamid, 6-1 Hying Flother, 7-1 Symphony's Son, 6-1 hony Counter, 12-1 Blide Pult, 14-1 Lankarb, 16-1 glans. 1996: MEROSHANG 6-11-6 R Commondy (8-15 by) R Aleborat 6 ten

FORM FOCUS THE RYNGS PHANTOM fail 2nd in Grade I Supassible Newtons' Handle at Challestonar, previously
hant Sive and Take 1141 in 18-mones incades hundle
in Wincardon (2m, good). RYNNG FIDDLER 1141
bell of 4 to Northern Strategist for handless hundle
at Wincardon (2m, good). GLIEC PATH 371 lest of
7 to Simmariton in Grade is Dovescole Northern
Handle at Northern Strategist for handless
hundle at Wincardon (2m, good). RVDRY CDASTER
(84) 2nd of 15 to Handle Hause in anxion lamids at

Salection: Disallowed

Salection: Disallowed

2.30 FARRYIEW NEW HOMES NOVICES CHASE (\$10,892 3m 110yd) (8 runners)

SECTIVE: 8-4 Educior Profiles, 7-2 Who is Espirante, 5-1 Julius, 6-1 Promoder, 6-1 Major Hore, 12-1 Gendios, 35-1 disease. 1980: 50 BALLISTIC 7-11-8 M A Pizquani (6-4 fe/) J O'Shen TS RN

FORM FOCUS

UNIONA PUBLISH 4 Ind of 9 D Search
spotions' bandlicap chain at Fernand (Cra. 31, good).

COLERGIAN PRODUCES 2045 and of 9 to Search 10 of 9 to Top Janelly in sevents handlicap chase at the search Cra. 24 sents.

All Third We 2st of 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good).

All Third We 2st of 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good) of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 30). WHO IS EQUIMANE
HAND A WE 2st of 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good).

All Third Colleges (Cra. 31, good) of Search 10 to Act 1 was 1 sents (Cra. 31, good).

All Third Colleges (Cra. 31, good).

Al

3.05 DARY TELEGRAPH NOVICES CHASE landicep: £14,070: 2m 3t 110yd) (5 numers) SECTIME: 3-4 Scientifick, 6-2 Mapler Toly, 3-1 District, 5-1 Wide Minic, 6-1 Fister Inland 1998: SOUTHAMPTON 6-10-9 A P McCoy (11-2) 6 Balding 6 no

FORM FOCUS

INTERNALIZE THE Set of 0 to Lond Allo in Gorde II Pendi Noulcus: Come at Kempton (2m, 44 100yd, good), WELDE MUSIC TH 2nd of 4 to Mateligum in spekes chase at Kempton (2m, pixel to soll). MAS-TER TORY basi Lively Kright 11 in 13-runner rev-ice chase at Leisseier (Sin, good). GAPHNIPA, completed trable, best Whisty 1941 in 3-renner nowbest franchisip crises at Warmick (2m 4f 170pd, good) FRAZER SAME 211 Zard of 10 to Full Of Bousce in nowbes strate at Wiscomion (2m 5t, good).

3.35 CITY INDEX SPREAD BETTING HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,856; 2m 110yd) (7 runners)

BETTMER 7-4 Mean Ro., 7-2 Grance Not, 8-1 Fourth in Lion, 7-1 Chickmettin, 6-1 Roo Virtiga, Kimp Mad, 16-1 Rependents. 1005: 4 Valid METRUCTOR 5-11-1 R Ballacy (7-2) P Walter 9 on

FORM FOCUS

FOLEYTH MI LINE 111/61 5th of 14 to Forestal in tendicap hands at Chellenhem (2nt 11, good with Novices' Hardle at Kemplain (2nt, good), PLOSCH-MOSE (2nt title 2nt 12nt 12nt), MOSE (12nt 12nt 12nt), MOSE (12nt 12nt), MOSE (12nt 12nt), MOSE (12nt 12nt), MOSE (12nt 12nt), MOSE (12nt), MOSE (1

4.10 ALPINE MEADOW HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,925: 3m) (7 numbers) 08365 TAMAPPOUR 14 (B.F.S.) (Mrs. A Ferrant). In Pipe 10-11-10. C Measin 08 110114 MALE DEFRING 15 (DD.F.S.S.) (Mrs. Stockhide). If Herston-Chains 7-11-8 C Linearing 08 022250 PUNIONAY PETE 15 (F.S.) (Mrs. Stockhide). In Pipe 7-21-8. R Denastooly 97 0297111 TRIBETING 19 DD.F.S.S. (Mrs. Stockhide). If Provider 8-10-10. In Footer 99 0297111 TRIBETING 19 DD.F.S.S. (Mrs. Stockhide). If Provider 8-10-10. In Footer 99 0297111 TRIBETING 19 DD.F.S.S. (Mrs. Stockhide). In Provider 8-10-10. In Stockhide 19 0297111 Stockhide 19 029711 Stock

ing lander last Ban 9-2 BETTMS: 2-1 Temporous, 0-4 Hulle Dening, 4-1 Triberio, 8-1 Smaggler's Point, 10-1 Spaceage Bold, 12-1 20-1 Marie Bala.

1900: NEWTON POSIT 7-10-6 R Jakeson (7-2) D Michelson 11 mm

FORM FOCUS

TAMARPOUR 24:1 Sh at 25 to Big Sirpnd in Consi
Dip of Chettestum Con 54, good to Born). HALE
DERRING BI with of 24 to Physician in Implicacy
fundis at Chettestum Con 22, good with ABSTER
BLAKE (77b below of) 34:1 1th and FIRMANAY
PETE (Sin befor of) 76:1986.
TREBUNE basi Linding Prospect BI in 8-humber
Soluction: TAMARPOUR

4.45 MAHONIA HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: 92,762: 2m 3f 110yd) (9 runners) ### STAR OATS 7 (F.G.S) Of Long S Editors 11-12-6 ... Lay (7) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (8) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (8) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (8) ### Lay (8) ### Lay (9) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (7) ### Lay (8) ### Lay (8) ### Lay (9) ###

HETTIME: 5-2 A Wardy Cilinen, 3-1 Quint Confidence, 7-2 Sun Quis, 5-1 Year Fuser, 10-1 Quantiling Reput, 16-1 Flowing Mass. Phys Wheel, 25-7 Offices. TOTAL MER BOLLISHTLY B-12-1 Mas J Total (5-7) Mas I Cobins 10 mm

FORM FOCUS

STAR CATS best Hickelms Lad 4 in 4-cursur hearing chase at Townstater Can 51, good in Sirri).

TOM FURZE best Bardings Deshir 71 in 9-cursur hearing chase at Folkestonis Can 51, good in Sirri). A WHINTY CITIZEN best Monthsid 2 in 13-rupper Laicester hearing chase at Folkestonis (2m 51, good) FLOWING RIVER 25 in 12 in 13-rupper Laicester hearing chase (2m 51, good) FLOWING RIVER 25 in 12 in 12 in 5 sile-evaminon Misst in Newton's huster chase (2m 51, 110)rd, good; RIVER 25 in 12 in 12 in 5 sile-evaminon Misst in Newton's huster chase (2m 51, 110)rd, good; and busing. EAAMSLANG ROYAL 22 3rd of 11 in 5 solections OURT CONTROPICAC best The Lorentza 25 in point-to-point (3m, good in Sirri).

5.15 FAIRVIEW NEW HOMES STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

RETTIME: 3-4 Spark DI Stant, 4-1 Ractingtonii, 5-1 Gastlov, 7-1 Royal Por Banck, 8-1 Kepton, 10-1 ordens. 1988: WADE ROAD 5-11-1 J Califorly (6-1) Miles H Knight 24 mm.

FORM FOCUS

BULLED BDY 241 10th of 18 is Big Paris is Warwide MN 521 race (2m., pood in 1870). KAPCO 211
Uth of 20 to Bibly Box is Sandown NN list race (2m.
110td, pood) with MODREAGER'S MENASE 301
112ti. ANR BONJAMSEES 637 for of 12 to The Land
Agent in Howston Abboth NN 184 races (2m. 11, ant),
PIDYAL POT BLACK 2994 4th of 14 to Resek in

Salection: SPRIT UF STEEL

TRAINERS

Mess H Knight D Nicholson

COURSE SPECIALISTS 18772 明 明 27.6 25.4 20.8 19.8 16.0

Garnwin can extend sequence 3.25 GODS SOLUTION HANDICAP (£3,769: 71) (19) ASCOT

| 20 | 4045 | PANNT IT BLACK 47 (D.8) D Histories 4-8-4 Canadyn Rainz (T) | 507 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 10 3-5 Tagin, 8-1 Storing Welter, 8-5 Fame Again, 18-1 Faint, No Citches, Busses John, Con-Jos-Av. 12-1 Offers

3.55 TOYTOP MADDEN STAKES (£3,431: 51 212yd) (8)

2-1 Marylaboro, 3-1 Sphestad, 7-2 Three For A Pound, 7-1 Microty, 8-1 Sevent Boy, 14-1 Impolectity, 16-1 Size Lugine, 20-1 others,

4.30 YARNI HANDICAP (£3,743: 1m 5i 175vd) (13)

5.05 WHORLTON HANDICAP (3-Y-O. £3,457: 1m 3i 214yd) (8)

7) 1530 HEAD GARDERT 5 (S) N Lititroctim 9-7 T 6 Met. unglidin (3) 3231 LOVE NE DO 30 (D.S) M Jahreston 9-4. In Roberts (3) -212 AMICO 25 (G) C Promitor 9-2 D Mexiconer (4) 05-2 LTYTL ACCEPT 21 S Withouts 9-2 L K Durley (5) 400- WILDINGOR 175 J Berthell 8-11 S Drowns (7) 0-50 KINGDOM PEARL 47 M Cornector 7-12 D Whight (4) 4-15 BRICCINGC 198 35 (S) Mrs. M Reveloy 7-12 D Whight (4) 4-15 BRICCINGC 198 35 (S) Mrs. M Reveloy 7-12 D Whight

9-2 Royal Expression, 5-1 Dirab, 6-1 Mister Aspects, Field Of Vision, 7-1 Descrip Canadar, 8-1 Welso Mid, 10-1 Sastema, 12-1 others

JOCKEYS: F Lynch, 4 winous; from 16 ridus, 25 0%; J Egen, 3 from 13, 23.1%; K Derley, 26 from 131, 19 5%; J Carrel, 25 from 149, 16.6%; J Forland, 13 from 96, 13.5%, 6 Carlet, 6 from 45, 13 3%, F J Fesser, 4 from 32, 12.5%. 13-4 Little Actes, 3-1 Acrico, 7-2 Love Me Bo, 6-1 Hard Gardener, 7-1 others. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Asoot 2.30 Who is Equiname. A PROMOTESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Newcastle

Going: good 2:35 (5h 1. MiGUELON (K Darley, 3-2 isw); 2. Flower O'Cannie & Detton, 11-4), 3. 71 pastra O'I Dreems U Foture, 4-1), ALO RAN, 11-4 Lest Knight (4th), 12 Anisa Lady (8th), 25 MR End Cuest (8th), 6 an. NP. Vet's Deck NR. 1, 3 kl, 1%, 1% R Holimshead & Upper Longdon. Total: 23 00; 21:30, 22:20. DF; 24:30. CSF: 23.02. Holinshead at University Carlot Carlo E17522 Tricast: 2.572.52.

3.40 (61) 1. WITHOUT SPIENDS (S. Whitworth, 7-2; 3. Prominent IJ Fortune, 9-2; ALSO RAN: 7-2 Eger (611), 11-2 Challeg, 10 Move The Clouds (4th), 16 Interaction, 26 Bellanule, 33 Cosby Nod (6th) 9 ran. Sh hd, 114; sh hd, 114, 54. W Storey at Correct. Tote: £130, £120, £120, £170. £15. £17.00. £17.00.

4.15 (1m) 1. MAFTOOL (L. Deltori, 2-5 lav., Richard Evens's nap and Our Newmarket Consepondent's nap); 2, Terded (D. Hamson, 5-1); 3, Indigo Dawn (D. McKeown, 8-1). ALSO RAN 9 Nome (4th). RACELINE CATTERICK 102 202 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

12 Golden Thunderbolt (Sth), 100 Born On The Wild, Persian Suratel (Sth), 7 ran 3d, 2f 26f, 3fel, 5t. J. Goscien at Newmarkst. Tota \$1.30; \$1.20, \$1.70. OF: \$2.50 CSF \$2.59

Jackpot: not won (pool of £8,359.71 corried forward to Folkestone today).
Placepot £47.00. Quadpot £4 40. Sandown Park

Going: good to farm 2.15 (2m ch) 1, JUST BRUCE (D Golda-cher, 20-1), 2, Mister Drum (W Marston 13-8), 3, Flying Instructor (R Bellamy, 4-7 13-8), 3 rpm 1 lai, 11 Mis E Heath Total fev). 3 ran 1 lai, 11 Mrs E He 28 00, OF 23 60 CSF (41 28

E8 00. OF CS 60 CSF (41 28
2.50 Cm 41 110yd cn) 1, PONTOON
BRIDGE (R Durwordy, 4.9 lav) 2.
Chtappucci (D Callagher 6.1) Only two
Innshed ALSO RAN 7.2 her Player (1) 40
BLI Gee (1) 4 ran NR Stalely Home 31
Mrs A Penett at Pulco ough Tote £1 40
OF £2.10 CSF £3.28

Mrs A Perieut at Public All Perieut at Perieut at Public All Perie

3.55 (3m 110yd cht 1, DISNMER BAY (L. Aspell, 7-4 (1-tax), 2. Credon (R. Durwcody, 2-(1) ALSO RAN 7-4 (1-tax) Hartstoan Lady (u) 3 ran 13t. J Gätnot at Findon Tote £2.40 DF £2.10 CSF

E4 65
4.30 Zm ch) 1 RED BEAN (H Johnson, 5-2), 2 The Cerrot Man (P Inde, 49-11 lay), 3 Count Berachols (D Goldagher, 16-11) ALSO RAN-4 Noise Raider (4th), 56 Young Allie (3th) 5 ran 134 24, 71, 211, K Whoart at Reigner Chie E3 10, E1 30, E1 30 DF E2 10 CSF E4 81 £120 DF £210 CSF £481
5.00 £3m 41 1194d chn 1. ELECTRIC COMMITTEE Rife A Wood, 9-11, 2. Greek Pokey [Miss N Courterwy, 20-1), 3. Onling Force (Mr A Charles-Jones, 7-2) ALSO RAN 7-4 Lav True Steel (Mr), 11-4 Gatzg (pu), 9 The Mill Height pur 6 ran 3, 161 St A Wood at Sandtreat, Tole £1170, £490, £290 DF £4510 CSF-£103-07 Placepot: £4,818 20. Quadpot: £92.10.

Southwell Going. good 2.25 (3m 110)d chi 1, Father Stry (J Osborne, 4.5 tav), 2, Zambea Sput (5-2) Criv Iwo Institud 3 ian Dist 0 Sherwood Totar C1:30 DF 22:30 CSF. 12:77

3.00 (2m ch) 1. Chorus Line (R Supple, 3-1) 2. Terrayosisign (7-1) 3. Sanlaray (s. 1) Girtine 2-1 lav (ur) 9 san. 29, 94 P. Bestimord 10se £3.90 £1.60. £2.30. (21.0) 0F £8.00 Teo £20.20 CSF: (22.39)

3 50 (Am 4) 110 of chi). Counterbalanno (5 McNed) 11-2); 2 Carragh Peter (25-1). 3 8s Ol A Touch (4-1) Blazer Monrison 7-2 tay 8 (an 26). 111 J McConnochie 10to 26 70. C1 60, 67 80, 61 20. DF 671 (a) CSF 128 44. Tricast 2556 76. 4 05 (2m 4) 110 of tides (Peace Land U F Titley 4.9 (av) 2 Stora To Speck (11-2), 3 Pricas (3-1) 8 (av) 7 23 Mrs D Hame Tote 51 40, 51 10, 51 40, 52 70 DF (2 30 CSF 53 12 4.40 (3m 110)rd hallor 1 Personn Bille (1 Ashons, 9-4) 2 Ryder Cup (9-4), 3, Jet Boys (13-8 tar) 4 ran 125, 144 C Egenton, Fore 52 70 DF (2-60 CSF) 7 01

5 10 [2m Ital) 1 Mayday Lauren (S. Wyme, 9-4; 2 Mry Leader (13-8 hav), 3 Buhmaccol (13-2 8 and 3,211 A Balley Tote (3,70 E1 10, E1 40, E3 30 DF 53 80 CSF £6 70 Pleceput 127 90 Quadpot \$10.30.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) 2.10 HEADCORN MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES

(2-Y-0 fiffles: £2,277: 5f) (11 numers)

(2-Y-O fiffles: \$2.277: 5f) (11 minners)

101 6 CAROL GRINGS 4.1 Minne 8-7. Drue C'Red 11

102 CASA PORA R Harms 8-7. Drue C'Red 11

103 LSA'S PROFE ME: 6 Religion 9-7 W.J. O'Conner 7

104 MASS SIX'E 1 Respices 9-7 W.J. O'Conner 7

105 LAPY MOLL R Boss 8-6 L Debtor 10

106 SHANKON C Druyer 9-6 L Debtor 10

107 SOLWAY LASS P Exists 8-6 C Paller 2

108 CONCETTS O Congress 8-6 C Paller 2

109 SIX MAY LASS P Exists 8-6 C Paller 2

109 SIX MAY LASS P Exists 8-6 C Paller 2

109 SIX MAY LASS P Exists 8-6 C Paller 2

109 MASS May Debtor 8-5 J Garin 5

109 MASS May Debtor 8-6 T System 9

110 SIX MARCHE (JASY S Williams 8-4 D R MicCarb 01

111 MACK-H-DLY J Minner 8-3 M Harry (p. 8

9-4 Caso Finan 7-2 Lin's Profe, 6-1 Lin'y Minh, 7-1 Carol Grituss, 8-1 Min. Step.

10-1 Stamma, Cornectes, 12-1 others.

5-1 Makke Man. 6-1 Koan Waters, College Might, Salte Fockers, 7-1 Bandy Flyer, Superior 8-1 Bandyk, 18-1 others.

STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,277: 6f) (11)

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANCES: S. C. Villiante. 7 subsets from 20 routes, \$5.0%. C. Hargas. 6 from 29, 30.0%; C. Artarimet, 6 from 22, 27.3%; Laby Harnes, 5 from 19, 26.3%; J. Paper, 5 from 20, 25.0%; B. Milliant, 6 from 28, 21.4%. JUCKEYS: M Files, G nimers from 22 rides, 27 fbs; Pat Eddon; B from 30, 26 Fs. M Farman, 7 hour 39, 24 fbs; Pat Eddon; 15 hour 30, 79 fb. J Spack, 3 form 16, 18 fbs; Dane (17 hold, 11 hour 39, 18 fbs.

equently, but the seven-yearold is not certain to appreciate the step back in trip. Garnwin has taken to

fences and jumped impres-

sively when completing a

treble at Warwick 25 days

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

Major Nova improved on previous chasing form when a half-length second to Him Of Praise in a novice chase at Towoester earlier this month.

3.05: Greenback is the form choice on his victory against Mister Drum at Kempton on Boxing Day and third to Land Afar over the same track. However, he is not built to carry big weights and may be worth opposing against some progressive rivals. The form of Master Toby's win at Leicester on his seasonal reappearance was boosted when the runner-up won sub-

ago. His previous win over Flight Lieutenant has worked out solidly and he is weighted to complete a four-timer. 3.35: If Mister RM is none the

worse for his fall at Cheltenham last time, he must go close. The five-year-old was upsides the leaders in the Supreme Novices when falling three out and had previously run Sammartino to two

lengths at Kempton. However, in a race where there should be plenty of pace it could be worth taking a risk with Rosencrantz who has conditions in his favour. Best on fast ground in a truly run race over two miles, he en-countered heavy ground last time, having previously been beaten over an extended 25 miles. He should go well here

RICHARD EVANS

3.45 ALDINGTON MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,277: 61 189yd) (14)

Emme. 3.45 Sharp Temper. 4.20 Captain's Day. 4.55 Victory Team. 5.25 Classic Mystery. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.15 JOHN EMMS (nep). 4.20 Captain's Day.

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 5F-8F, LOW BEST

2,40 ROCHESTER HANDICAP (63,122-51) (12)

3,15 SHOPPIECLEFFE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN

Ti-4 Janu Enters, 7-2 Laurente, 4-5 Mars Deare, 8-5 Marsa Roy, 18-1 Balsonae, Marsa Song, June, 12-5 plless.

MESS (3-Y-O: FZ_Z77: Gf 189yd) (14)

5. EASTERN EAGLE 196 J Endings 0-0

6. HEPPOS 196 S Done 0-0

MASTERNET REV. 197 W Mark 9-0

104. REPAIL REV. 197 W Mark 9-0

2. SHAPPO WASS. 35 (BF) W Harges 3-0

SHAPPO WASS. 35 (BF) 30 Lood Hardriguins 3-9

SHAPPO WASS. SHAPPO A Juva 6-0

W J

SHAPPO WASS. SHAPPO A Juva 6-0

SHAPPO WASS. SHAPPO A Juva 6-0

SHAPPO WASS. SHAPPO A Juva 6-0

SHAPPO WASS. SHAPPO WASS. 3-1

SHAPP 8-4 Shap Temper, 5-1 Hight, 6-1 Mesterpiece, 7-1 Mareus Best, 8-1 Shapio Nazal, Ballia In Ugist, 12-1 Busino Bagle, 14-1 others.

4.20 ALIGIANI HANDICAP

5-1 Capable's Ting. 6-1 Impainal, 7-1 Eurobest Boy, Statists Hern, 8-4 Armini. Broune, Nicoson, 10-1 Smalls Eurobean Fred, 12-1 others.

4.55 LEVY BOARD HANDACAP (£3,304: 61 189yd) (16)

4-1 Brasies, 5-1 Royal Carlino, 8-1 Charest Roy. (Senset Zeni, 18-1 Victory Turns, Industry, 12-1 others

5,25 KINGSHORTH HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £2,940: 1m 4f) (6)

1 GOO- TASK CHIM 212 F Coin 9-7 T Coinn 6
2 400- CLASSIC MYSTERY 221 8 Mechan 9-7 M Telebrat 5
3 500- HEFREHMA DANCER 212 B Millions 8-7 T Symbol 4
4 000- WARRICK ROSE 160 Mer P Didelet 8-6 D Holland 2
5 400:3 Lies Beforum 25 L Monlager Half 8-8 0 0mm 0 0**Molif 1
6 000- CLASE 132 R Assistant 8-1 J Coinn 3 2-1 Lung Badonson, 5-2 Tarak Chini, S-1 Charac Migstery, 5-1 Officer, 16-1 Health on University, 25-1 March Chini

FOLKESTONE THUNDERER 2.10 Lisa's Pride, 2.40 Melibu Man. 3.15 John

Time to cry foul on an irregular practice

don't think I will bother to write this column today. Not in the mood, bit weary after all that skating in Switzerland, don't want to let myself down with a piece that's not up to standard.

But, as you see, I am writing it anyway. Partly this is the everpresent desire to pay the mortgage. But the important fact here is not that writing is what I do: a writer is what I am. So here I am, writing.

The late Geoffrey Green, former loothall correspondent of this parish, had an aphorism for the guidance of all journalists. "If you can't write a good piece," he would say, "write a

He did not mean that second-rate pieces were acceptable. He meant that a writer's minimum obligation is to write. You always write, you always get it there in time and you always provide enough copy. The variable in the equation is quality.

Now, let us zip-pan to the Tewin Irregulars in their palmiest of days. And the nightmare of Saturday nights, when every telephone call brings a fresh disaster. The Fish can't play, he'd forgotten he'd promised to go to the seaside. Steady Eddy is through to the golf final and he's very sorry. Well, do you know if Giles is

A MOMENT of Corinthian

like a pearl on a beach of

Liverpool forward, was lauded far and wide for his

from granting him a penalty in the heat of the FA Carling

AANCHESTER UNITED: Apr 5: v Dorby ni Apr 12: v Blackburn (a) Apr 19: v

examined and cherished.

And so the ring-round begins. Never mind, Jason, just thought I'd ask, send Emma my love. Hello Dani Yes, it has been a long time hasn't it. How's Jane? Oh dear. I am sorry to hear that. But since you're a bachelor again, you may fancy a game of cricket tomorrow ...

By nine in the evening, shame is long gone. Well, not all shame. There is one phone call I don't make. Nicky, I'm awfully sorry but we're crying off. we simply can't get a team out. Never! I might ring Nicky to ask if he has a few players he could lend me. I might ask if we can agree the toss now and bat first, hoping the rump of the side will arrive before 4pm. But the one thing you do not do is cancel.

I have played against and alongside all kinds of last-second picks: a coach driver (who receved an inad-vertent first-ball beamer); Rachael Heyhoe Flint's double (who received a not totally inadvertent snorter into the groin first ball); various groundsmen, passers-by, drinkers, small boys. The results were sometimes humiliating. But we always played. What, weasel out of the fixture? That would not be cricket.

Now what I am writing about, of course, is Middlesbrough Football Club. Middlesbrough really did say. I'm not writing my column today, I'm SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

not in the mood. They actually did phone Nicky and tell him that the entire game was off.

Or to be pedantic, on December 21 they failed to produce a team to play Blackburn Rovers, claiming that they had 23 of their 40 players unavailable because of injury and illness. For this, they were docked three points by the FA Premier League and fined £50.000. As a point of interest, Middlesbrough next played on Boxing Day, and, refreshed after their

Football's integrity bolstered by sporting gesture at Highbury

Fowler praised from highest level

rest, defeated a weary Everton for their first win in 13 league matches. Today Middlesbrough make their

appeal against this loss of three points, every one of which they need as they struggle against relegation.

They have spent a good deal of money hiring the most costly legal help in order to show that they are more to be pitied than blamed.

The counter-argument will be that Middlesbrough have obligations, as a professional football club, and must fulfil them. But minimal professional standards, on the Geoffrey Green Principle, are only half the story. Agreeing to play sport at all is an

obligation. Obviously a professional outfit has obligations to paying supporters, but any sporting organisation has obligations to its opponents: that day and throughout the duration of any competition it has agreed to enter

Missing a fixture is not like closing the shop because of staff sickness. It is more like a gambling debt. If you bet with a friend and lose, you will be quicker to pay him than you are the milkman. The milkman's debt is a matter of obligation, the gambling loss is a debt of honour.

And Middlesbrough welshed on the footballer's debt of honour. They not only did something that the most despised journalist in the press box of the Riverside Stadium would not do. they did something that even the Tewin Irregulars would find unacceptable. And that is stooping pretty

Now I have nothing against Middlesbrough. The bravery of their strategy — bringing in the best players in the world, paying them 2 mint and seeing if they could inspire the journeymen around them - is worth cheering, even if the flaws have been obvious.

ut it is a law of sport at every B level: you honour your fix-tures. Middlesbrough would have had the admiration and sympathy of the world if they had lined up against Blackburn with the groundsman, the snottiest appren-

tice, two little lads and the tea lady.

But they refused to play and it will be an absurdity if the points are restored. If I were running the appeal, I would dock them an extra three points on top for wasting the nation's time. Oh, and if Middlesbrough fancy a Sunday afternoon cricket match next season, don't ring the Tewin Irregulars. We have our standards, perhaps not of sporting excellence, but certainly of what constitutes sporting behaviour.

Bristol City rule out big-name appointment

BRISTOL CITY have set their sights realistically low as they search for a manager to replace Joe Jordan, who left the club by mutual consent on Monday night. It is unlikely that Kevin Keegan or Ray Wilkins, both available for a return to management, will be considered by the Nationwide League second division club.

Instead, City are focusing their efforts on the lower reaches of the League structure. "We can't afford one of the big names," Scott Davidson, the City chairman, said yesterday. "I've heard Ray Wilkins has already been mentioned but we're not looking for a player-manager,

"We need someone who has been successful in the lower divisions. We want him to concentrate on coaching while the board of directors will look after transfers and the finan-

cial side of things."

Jordan, 45, had been in charge for 28 months — his second stint at Ashton Gate — but, after six defeats in eight matches, City had slipped away from the play-off zone. Davidson felt that it was time

"If the new man could get us promotion, that would be a bonus," he said. "What we're really looking towards is next

City have already received a number of inquiries about the vacancy. When Davidson returns tomorrow from a business trip to Dublin, the applications will be sifted through. "It would be nice to make an appointment before the weekend but it will more probably be next week," he

John Ward, the former assistant manager at Aston VIIla, would be a popular choice, even though he managed Bristol Rovers - City's bitter rivals - for three seasons until he was dismissed in May last year. "I'll sit down and think about it in due course," Ward said yesterday. "Everybody knows I want to get back into

second division match away to Crewe Alexandra last night but is unlikely to be offered the job permanently. More suitable candidates include Mel Machin, of Bournemouth, David Webb, the unsettled Brentford manager, Sammy McIlroy. of Macclesfield Town, and John Rudge, the Port Vale manager.

City's decisive board meeting lasted most of Monday. with Jordan eventually called in during the evening to hear

Whoever succeeds him will inherit the problem of 16 players whose contracts need renewing during the summer. The club also has a suspended two-point deduction hanging over it, until the end of the year, after the City-Rovers derby at Ashton Gate in December was marred by crowd disturbances.

David Elleray, of England will be referee for the first leg of the Uefa Cup semi-final between Tenerifé and Schalke 04 on April 8. His appointment was confirmed yesterday by Uefa, the European governing body, which also revealed that Nikolai Levnikov, of Russia, will take charge of the away leg of Manchester United's European Cup semifinal against Borussia Dortmund on April 9. Urs Meier. of Switzerland, will handle the second leg at Old Trafford two

weeks later. Hellmut Krug, of Germany, has been appointed referee for the first leg of Liverpool's Cup Winners' Cup semi-final away to Paris Saint-Germain on April 10. Rune Pedersen, of Norway, will be responsible for the Anfield return on April

Nigel Quashie, the Queens Park Rangers midfield player. has signed a five-year contract. Quashie has recently returned to reserve team action, having being out for almost a year after a bout of glandular fever.

Karl Ready, the Wales inter-national defender, has also committed himself to OPR for



Ashby points to the spot unmoved by the protests of Fowler, right, and Seaman against his decision to award Liverpool a penalty at Highbury

Your reaction in the penalty incident, in which you visibly tried to persuade the referee from awarding a penalty in your favour, did you great honour." Sepp Blatter, the general secretary of Fifa the world governing body of football, wrote in an open letter from Zurich to Fowler. faxed to the Liverpool Echo yesterday, "At a time when there is a disturbing trend towards cheating, your example in such an important

match helps to maintain the integrity of the game." In addition, Fowler, who had gone to ground at the England training camp at Bisham Abbey, was praised by Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, who

reputation for being a scally-wag, but nobody can fault him here. He showed his concern that David Seaman, a fellow professional, might be sent off. The pitch is always the best stage for players to show what

they are made of." Ashby remained silent after. issuing the simple statement: "I didn't hear what Fowler

Clearly, courtesy of the television camera lens. Fowler was pleading with the referce for something. Seaman recalled that Fowler, as he got to his feet, was insisting that the goalkeeper had not touched him. Others, including Lee Dixon, the Arsenal defender, suggested that Fowler had mouthed "no penalty!". Others interpreted his instinctive first reaction as trying to ensure that, because there was no detectable contact, he him self would not receive a yellow card for alleged "diving".

Given the rarity of the matter, given that the actions of sporting idols of Fowler's age - 22 - can influence the behaviour of youngsters, perhaps it behoves everybody to think the purest thoughts and to congratulate him.

Indeed, Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, did so at once. "It was a big fair play from Fowler," he said. "I have never seen a player do that. though I have many times seen the opposite. I compare it to Bjorn Borg, when he was 17 and about to win the French

Open for the first time . . . and on match point he said 'no, the ball was in'.'

As rare, as welcoming, as valuable as the gesture was, Seaman brought smiles among the media afterwards. Asked what more Fowler could have done, he responded: "He could have kicked the penalty wide."

In the event, Fowler's some what tame and telegraphed kick was saved by Seaman, but Jason McAteer, predatory in the extreme and not afflict ed by implication in the buildun, stroked the rebounding ball into the net for a goal that could be influential in the championship.

So, in little more than a month, the course of the FA

Cup and the Premiership could have turned on penalties that Sky Television technology shows ought never to have

been given. The winning goal for Chel-sea in the FA Cup fifth-round tie against Leicester City at Stamford Bridge came from a penalty that looked obviously unfair. Liverpool's winner at Highbury came after a penalty when the action deceived

the naked eye. With 20 or more cameras at match, BSkyB can and does dissect every decision attempted by the arbiter, but that must not be allowed to persuade the authorities in sport to weaken a referee's rule, or to interrupt the rhythm of a game by acquiescing to the

siren call for television replays to be used as on-the-spot

There are cheats who would soon find ways to use such interruptions to destroy the trust on which football depends.

☐ Wenger's memory is nice. but not perfect. It was Mats Wilander, a fellow Swede of Borg, who in 1982 won the French Open tennis title when he was 17. in his semi-final against Jose-Luis Clerc, standing at match point, Jean Gignot and Jacques Dorimann, the linesman and umpire, ruled out a forehand from Clerc. "That's not the way I want to win the point," Wilander insisted. The ball

UNBOND LEAGUE Premier division Alfrator v Geinsborough, League Cup Temi-land, first leg: Boston v Colwyn Bay

AVON INSUPANCE COMBNATION: First division: Bristo City v West Ham (tal Clevedon); Bristol Flovers v Brighton (at Yelle Town); Charlton v Norwich (2.0); Cyetal Pelace v Bournermouth (at Plough Lans, 2.0); (zasech v Wintoledon (7.18); Portsmouth v Oueana Perk Rangers (7.0); Sevanscat v Amena (2.0). mansas v Amenel (2.0). ONTIN'S LEAGUE Premier divisions

(7.0), Port Vale v Preston (7.0); Sreffield Usic v Notis County (at Don Valley Stadium, 7.0); West Brometich v Asion Villa (at Hastowan Town P.C., 7.0) Second division: Manafald v Winastam (7.0); Robinstein v Winastam (7.0); Robinstein v Winastam (7.0); Wissan v Chester (7.0); Out the Final State v Lincoln (7.0); Wigan v Chester (8.0); William v Ches

UMsion: Hallsham v Peacehawar and Telscombe, Hassocia v Selbdean, Thee Bridges v Southwick MMERWA SOUTH MEDIANOS LEASUE

Premier division: Somen bury Res v Diss.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Christonanh v Essingdi.

LIHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Spaiding v S and L Corby SCHOOLS MATCHES: English behoots girls' under 16 Virsio Trophy; Semi-fred.

Jest Schools Grimshaw, Weg Miclands with the Carlot of the Schools Grimshaw.

RUGRY UNION Courage Clubs Chempionehip

Nuneaton v Worcester (7 30) CLUB MATCHES: Lydney v Royal Nevy (7.0); Mossley v RAF (7.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP; Hull Kingstor Rovers v Hull; Laeds v Castletest; 81 Heleni v Wigan.

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweleer League; chester v London (7 0); Newca Birminghem (7.30); Leicester v W (8 0); Crystal Palace v Thermas Valle;

FOR THE RECORD

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION INBAL Los Angeles Lakers 103 New Jetony 84 BLOWELER ALL-STAR GAME, North 162 South 146 (# Shelfield Arens) CRICKET

PERTI-: Sheffield Shield: Final final day of heel. Queensland 320 and 309. Western Australia: 165 and 304 (TM Moody 152, AC Gremst. 48. M. S. Kasprowa: 5-93) Queensland beat Western Australia by 160.

0800 111 210

Second one-day international match New Zealand v Sri Lanka CHRISTOHURCH ISH Lanka won tass) Si Lunka best New Jestand in, su wickets NEW ZEALAND

o w roung b Zoysa N J Asto c Mahansma b Joysa N J Home b Musaltharan S P Romang run out 1 L Carris c Dhamasona b Jayasunya ; A C Parore c and b Jayasunya ; Z Harris not out

BOWLING Years 7-0-45-0; Zoysa 7-1-29-2 Dharmascha 10-0-32-0; Muralgouran 10-1-42-2: Jayasunya 10-0-26-3, Chandaha 4-0-22-0, Do Silva 2-0-4-1

BRI LANKA S T Jayassanya c Larsen b Harte TR S Kalungharana c Cams b Harre R S Mahanama c Cams b Larsen P A de Silva b Asile "A Ranalungo not out H P Tibel eramo not out Total (4 wide, 35.5 overs) U U Chandona, H D P K Dharmasena W F U J C Vaes, M Murakharan and D N 1

Zoyse did not but FALL OF WICKETS 1-68, 2-73, 3-137, 4-103. BOWLING, Doul 5.5-1-38-0, Davis 8-0 58-0 Hams 10-0-38-2, Larson 5-0-23-1 Vetton 2-0-21-0, Actin 5-0-23-1 Vector 20-210, New York ST Layasunya TOUR MATCH. Bridgetown threat day of threet Indians 210 and 198-5 (SC Genguly 73no) Barbados 338-3 doc Match drawn

FOOTBALL

BOND LEAGUE Prenies com Hyde 2 Gusedoy 2.
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dag-enham and Redbridge 0 Aylectury 2.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Fire division: Seamsea 0 Barstal Rovers 4, Swindon 1 Millerall 0, Totionham 3 Chalsea

ESSEX SENICA LEAGUE: Promote de

Bentica 1
PANISH LEAGUE Sporting Capin 2
alance 1 BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: São Paulo champ BRAZILAN (LEAGUE: São Paulo champ-ionshipt: Irano São João 3 Juventus 2, Ro-Branco 1 Sentos 1, Mogi Minm 0 Bolatogo 0. Commoros 8 Guaram 2, Arastuba 0 Portugurça 2: Portuguea Samistra 2 São Jose 2. Internacional 2 Palmortas 2: São Jose 2. Internacional 2 Palmortas 2: São Paulo 1 America 0 Rio de Jemeiro championishipt: Americano 1 Modureas 0; Saporuma 1 Clana 1, Banqu 1 Ruminense 0; Flantengo 3 Vesco Da Gama 1; America 1 Botalogo 2

Botatogo 2 MCERTINIAN LEAGUE: Sen Lorino 2 Rosano Central 1 Newolfs 2 Husinan 0, Colon 3 Estudiardes 1; Girmassa La Plana 1 Racing 0; Lanus 1 Girmassa Juyy 1, Husican Comortes 1 Platence 1, Velez 2 Burfield 1; Independente 4 Union 4, River Plato 3 Boca Juniors 3, Fotro 2 Deportivo Español 1 MITEMARA PROPERTY

Español I
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Bolivia 6
Jamaica 0 (in Onire, Bolivia).
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Montaigu Tournament England 2 Grocco 0 (Los Sables d'Clannes, Premier League Under-19
Trophy: Quarter-linat: Wost Midlands 2
Lancachre 1 loot English Gills Shield:
Sethi-fried; Graveshorn 2, Bodey 1 English
Schools Durham Festivat: Graveshorn 2
Description 2, Incert 1, South Tuncate 0: Derwertsde 2, Leeft: 1 South Tyneside Sunderland 4 Hartlegool 3; Allentale Darlington 3; Luton 3 Bishop Auckland 5.

SONY WORLD RANGINGS (US unless stated) 1. G Norman (Aus.) 11.11pts avg. 2. I Lehman 9.59. 3. C Montgomeric (Scot) 9.07. 4. M Of Monta 8.70. 5. E Bis (SA) 8.52. 6. J Ozalo (Japan) 8.33; 7. N Faldo (Engl

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Montreat 3 Boston 1; New York Ranger: 3 Ptischurgh 0; Edmonton 5 San Jose 1; Vancouver 2 Los Angeles 2 (OT)

MOTOR BALLYING PORTUGUESE RALLY (seeing positions on scioond day) 1, T. Malenen (Fin. Massikski Lance) 2hr 44mm 10sus; 2, K. Erikson (Sw., Suberu Impreza al 10ses; 3, F. Lox (Bel, Toyola Celica) 2mm; 4, A. Schwarz (Gur. Ford Escon) 352; 5, G. J. P. Richelmi (Monsco, Ford Escon) 1732; 6, J. P. Richelmi (Monsco, Ford Escon) 1048.

METBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division Historidelics 69 Harbonne 48; Claiwood 3: Wyvern 52; New Cambell 44 Linden 41

bi D Henry (Scoti 10-5; W Snaddon (Scoti) bt R Lawler (Eng) 10-7; M Daws (Eng) bt J Forguson (Eng) 10-7; M Daws (Eng) bt J Mischer (Eng) 10-9; B Morgan (Eng) bt D O'Kano (V-2) 10-6; G Willerson (Eng) bt M Judge (Ing) 10-9; S Mazrocrs (Eng) Isract: C Small (Scot) 5-4; W Thome (Eng) Isract: C Dain (Wales) 5-4; N Foulds (Eng) Isract: C Dain (Wales) 5-4; N Foulds (Eng) Isract: C Mischer (Scot) 5-4; T Garmitre (Wales) Isract: A Burton (Eng) 6-3; A Holds (Eng) Isract: M Sevens (Wales) 6-3; A Holds (Eng) Isract: A Hamilton (Eng) Isract: X Broughton (Eng) 6-3; G Dott (Scoti) Isract: J Sweat (N Ing) 5-4.

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE: Fourth leg (Sydney to Capo Town, positions as at 1358 GMT yesterday, with miles to Capo Town): 1, Group 4 2-570; 2 Concert 2-595; 3, Global Tearmyorit 2-504, 4, Toshbas Wave Wemor 2-510; 5, Seas The Choldren 2-516; 6, Commercial Union 2-578; 7, Motorola 2-568; 8, Ocean Rower 2-569; 11, Nuclear Electric 2-538; 12, Courtautics

SPEEDWAY SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Wolverhampion 52 Swindon 38

was good, replay the point,"

Walter (Eng) 49, 9-7, 9-5, 9-5.

CEY BISCAPNE Floride: Lipton champlerships: Mert. Third round: H Drestorma (Ger) bt G Kuesten [Br) 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, T Muster (Russia) bt T Haas (Ger) 6-1, 6-2 M Larsson (Sive) bt S Doessdel (C2) 5-7, 7-5, 6-3; J Courier (US) bt S Dresper (Aus) 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, R Krajicok (Holf) bt A Boentach (Fr) 6-3, 7-5; P Sampraco (US) bt F Clavet (Sp) 6-3, 7-6, M Talestorn (Swe) bt C Moya (Sp) 6-3, 7-6, M Talestorn (Swe) bt C Moya (Sp) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; A Correips (Sp) bt S Laroau (Can) 6-1, 7-5; Women: Fourth round: S Teast (Fr) bt A Senchez Vicano (Sp) 6-0, 7-5; B Paules (Austria) bt A Fiete (Fr) 6-1, 2-6, 6-1; M Hoge (Swetz) bt A Fertrandize (US) bt L Devenport (US) 6-2, 4-8, 4-8-2, M Seles (US) bt A Carlesson (Swe) 6-2, 4-8, 6-1; J Novotra (C2) bt A Kournicova (Russ) 6-3, 6-4, 1 Sprika (Rom) bt C Rubm (US) 1-6, 7-6, 7-6.

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BUGBY UNION

Europeans must cut demands

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

REPRESENTATIVES of the five nations have the opportunity in Dublin today to make far-reaching decisions over the structure of European club rugby, but only if they can see concessions over the undue demands now being made on the game's leading players. The reconstituted board of

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the European Rugby Cup Ltd (ERC) will assemble in constructive mood and progress should prevail, though it will do so only if it is acknowledged that there must be selfregulation on international fixtures as well as in a European and domestic context.

"We are seeing very clearly this month and next month that there are too many matches." Peter Wheeler, the Leicester chief executive, said yesterday. Wheeler and Bill Beaumont, who will represent English interests, recognise that the players must be given some break from the ad hoc regime that professional rugby has imposed.

"I don't think it does any good for one section to point the finger at the other two international, European or domestic - and suggest there are too many matches," Wheeler said. "All three sections have to agree on a sensible policy which will reduce playing commitments."

Indeed, Michel Palmie, one of France's representatives, will take to Dublin proposals for European fixtures to take place every third week during the first half of the season. though the French also seek the expansion of the European Conference, the second-tier competition, to include teams from Spain, Holland and Germany.

The block-booking of Nov-ember for international fixtures represents a huge hole in the club season, but England have an additional reason for seeking to stagger the Euro-pean competition, because there will be a new sponsor for the first and second divisions. The company taking over

from the Courage brewing firm is likely to be known next

month, but will clearly seek an impressive start to the season rather than a fortnight of games before a long break for

More pointedly, all the ERC directors will hope to receive details of the recent five-year broadcasting agreement with satellite television so that club

budgets can be drawn up. Ironically, Brive, the Heineken Cup-holders, have hinted at attempts to reverse the trend of French players signing for British clubs. They have been in touch with Nigel Walker, the Cardiff and Wales wing, though Walker has told them that he still has a year of his existing contract to run.

Brive are also considering whether to play Christophe Lamaison this weekend, despite his 30-day suspension for foul play in the France game with Scotland earlier this month. They perceive the ban as restraint of trade and have asked the French federation

for a ruling. Chris Sheasby, back from the World Cup sevens in Hong Kong, can help Wasps to go six points clear at the top of the Courage Clubs Championship tonight. Sheasby plays at No 8 in the XV that will meet London Irish at Loftus Road, but Simon Geoghegan must be satisfied with a place among the Bath replacements when they play away to West Hartlepool tomorrow.

Geoghegan, a long shot for selection next week by the British Isles, has played only one league match this season before operations on his toes. ☐ Steve Lander, who officiated in the controversial Pilkington Cup final between Bath and Leicester last May, will referee the semi-final between Gloucester and Leicester at Kingsholm on Saturday. Neil Back, the Leicester flanker, earned a suspension when he pushed Lander after the final whistle last May and, should Back be selected, it will be the first occasion on which he and Lander have taken the field



Vettori, of New Zealand, is bowled by De Silva, of Sri Lanka, in the one-day international in Christchurch yesterday. Sri Lanka won by six wickets after the first game was rained off. Scoreboard, page 48

SAILING

Golding maintains lead despite damage

By Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent

DESPITE a knock-down last week that caused considerable damage but no injuries, Mike Golding's disciplined crew on Group 4 is continuing to lead the storm-battered BT Global Challenge fleet as the yachts grind their way past the Kerguelen Islands in the Southern Ocean.

Yesterday Group 4 held a slender lead over Chris Tibbs, on Concert, whose performance on this fourth leg of the race, taking the crews from Sydney to Cape Town, underhined how strongly he would have been in contention for overall honours had Concert not been dismasted during the second leg.
Tibbs is just 20 miles ahead

of Merfyn Owen, on Global Teamwork, in third position, with the two yachts in second and third places overall. Toshiba Wave Warrior, skippered by Simon Walker, and Save The Children (Andy contest for fourth and fifth places respectively. The fleet is continuing to fight unrelenting westerly gales in the southern Indian Ocean, causing considerable damage to several boats including Pause To Remember, which broke her boom early on Sunday at a position around 3,200 miles

from Cape Town.
Skippered by Captain Tom
O'Connor, the chief sailing instructor of the Irish Defence Forces, Pause was yesterday sailing along in thirteenth position under headsails and a free-flying trysall on the mast as her crew continued its repair to the boom.

It has taken three of them 48 hours to complete the work. which has involved cutting a Ift section of the boom to use as a sleeve to join the two main pieces together. The assembly has been secured using holts cannibalised from a bar in the forepeak locker used to hang

Impressive Oxford show early promise

OXFORD produced some interesting exercises in their morning outing yesterday (Mike Rosewell writes). René Mijnders, their coach, had them hitting rates of 65, 51 and 48 strokes per minute in bursts of upright rowing, body-swing rowing and quarter-slide activity. Apparently, when they beat the France national eight in Amsterdam over 250 metres ten days ago, they hit a rate of 50 on full slide.

The Boat Race rate will be about 34/35 and, on their way home to Pumey from Barnes. Mijnders had his crew doing bursts of 20 strokes at this

Cambridge had an outing before Oxford but did very little work. Even in the smooth water, the boat was tipping to bow side and being rigged with stroke on that side.

A later Cambridge outing proved little better. On high water, with swirling waves, the crew's boyy-side lurch persisted in a five-minute row, at 27/28, from Hammersmith Bridge to the Bandstand.

Long chats from the coach-es, Robin Williams and Harry Mahon, followed and a second five minutes at 28, against the tide from Hammersmith to



BOAT RACE 1997 Salurday, 4.10pm TV: Grandstand (BBC1) TIMES OF OUTINGS TODAY CAMBRIDGE: 1,30pm OXFORD: 10am and 2pm

Barn Elms, was marginally better.

Oxford had no such balance problems when they warmed up for an evening outing against an Old Blues crew. In an initial 12-minute downstream row from Chiswick Steps, Oxford took a length in spite of settling to 351/2. In the second row, a five-minute piece. Oxford gave the Old Blues a two length lead, were level after 1's minutes and won by seven lengths.

Some observers thought that Oxford would have won last year if the Boat Race had been on Wednesday. With three days to go, Mijnders has to keep his crew focused.

United States batsmen took advantage of the Gibraltar bowling to score 312 for six, the highest total of the first two days of the SC Trophy in Malaysia (a Special Correspondent was to the content of the special Correspondent or the content of the sections one of 11 West. Bacchos, one of 11 West

CRICKET

Gibraltar

serve up

bowling fit

for Bacchus

FAOUD BACCHUS, the for-

mer West Indies Test player, scored 100 not out as the

Indians in the United States squad, was watched by Bob-" Narasimha Rao, the Ireby National States on the opposing side when Bacchus opened the batting for West Indies against India in January 1979.

Rao, on a spying mission ahead of the key match tomorrow in group D between the two teams, saw little to disturb his confident Ireland side as Gibraltar dropped five catches en route to losing by 189 runs.

At the start of this qualifying tournament, Kenya were all but inked in for one of the three World Cup places on offer, but they stattered for a second day before passing Singapore's score of 89 with

only two wickets to spare.

Martin Suji, who earlier took three for nine, steered Kenya home with 14 not out. The form of the first two days suggests that Ireland and the United States could squeeze Kenya into third place in the group and out of contention. Holland again bowled well to dismiss Namibia for 90 before passing that total without losing a wicket, they are now without one win of qualifier from cover C. Banda. fying from group C. Bangla-desh confirmed their superlority in group B, beating West Africa by nine wickets in

The weakest of the four groupings is group D, in which Bermuda, the top seeds, were surprisingly beaten by Hong Kong. In the same group, Scotland were unconvincing as they began their campaign with a sixwicket success against Papua New Guinea.

short time

wen by last witchest Fig. 126-16. Overall, Canada win by four workets. Group D: Bermuda 227-9, Hong Kong 225-7 (May 4 overal). Hong Kong win by three vertoits. Papus Nite Guirea. 120 (36.1 overal). Scotland 121-4. (38.1 overal). Sociland win by six excitats.

Dalmiya is chosen as new ICC leader

JAGMOHAN DALMIYA. O India, will be the next head of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for a three-year term after the retirement of Sir Clyde Walcott in June.

Singh Dungarpus, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), said that the board had decided on Dalmiya as the country's chosen nominee last month, before the ICC decided in Kuala Lumpur that India would select the next ICC chief after the retirement of Walcott, who comes from Barbados. Sanath Jayasuriya scored 79 from 63 balls and Aravinda de Silva a swift 66 as Sri Lanka coasted to a six-wicket victory in the first one-day international against New Zealand in Christchurch yesterday. Chasing a meagre total of 201, Sri Lanka reached

their target in 35.5 overs. ☐ Motor rallying: Kenneth Eriksson, of Sweden, held a slender lead in the Rally of Portugal yesterday as Tommi Makinen, the world champi-on, from Finland, closed to within one second after 17 stages. Eriksson, driving a Subaru, had started the second leg with a 14-second lead but slowly lost his advantage on the four morning stages.

Cricket: Queensland completed a 160-run victory over Western Australia in Perth yesterday to secure their sec-ond Sheffield Shield victory in three years. They were held up only by Tom Moody, the Worcestershire captain, who made 152 during Western Australia's second innings of

Doning: Henry Wharton, from York, was yesterday given his third chance to win a world super-middleweight title when he was paired with Robin Reid, the World Boxing Council champion, in a Frank Warren promotion at the Nynex Arena in Manchester on May 3.

☐ Cricket: Nottinghamshire have offered Lance Klusener, the South Africa all-rounder, a one-year contract as they seek to replace the injured Chris Cairns. He is expected to make a decision before the weekend.

Die Hockey: Stevie Lyle, 17, the Cardiff Devils goaltender. has been selected as player of the year by the British Ice Hockey Writers Association.

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BY ORDER OF THE BOARD ALAM MESSENCES - Oursetor Dated 20th March 1997. obout, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of Milkes and coperating the statement of Milkes and coperating the meeting. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Cortis & Co. FO Sen 553, 30 Eastbourte Terrace, (2ad 1be hours of 10.00mm to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors, DATED TRIS 18th March 1997 N Eanford - Director **Preparities** VOLUMTARY** Dantov Limited NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Secrico 98 of the lasorconcy Act 1986, that a meeting of the exections of the above named company will be held of the offices of Leonard Curis & Co, streamed at 30 Enaibourne Termos, (2nd Floor), London W2 GLF, on 4th April 1997 at 11.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et sed. N Bandord - Desertor MEMBERS* VOLUNTARY LIGUIDATION RIGHT LIMITED formarly Trice from LIMITED formarly Trice from LIMITED formarly Trice from LIMITED formarly Trice from LIMITED formarly TOWNERS TO THE CENTRE OF THE LIMITED formarly THE L Trition Europe Limited On 12 Decamber 1998 the company was pinced for members' roluntary liquidation and John Francis. Soden of Fries Waterbone, Conso Europa 2, Milan was uppointed liquidator by the shareholders. The liquidator gives notice purmant to Rail 4.182A of the langivency Eules 1996 that the creditors of the company must send dotalls, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at the above address by 31 March 1997, which is the legislator also notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a chain by the data wentioned will not be included in the distribution. The company is colvent and able to pay all its amount creditors in facil. 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The proposal of the secondary contract the secondary provides and the secondary prov NOTICE to hereby given that Mrs Verira Ahmed Hirli restiting at 808 Riphing Avenue, Haydean, Merseyside, Liverpool 1.36 Dua, Merseyside, Liverpool 20 Ahmed Abdulla Hirli I was administrator of the estate of Ahmed Abdulla Hirli dided at London on 28th Nowen-box, 1995) to Union Bank of India, Gowalia Tank Brasch having their office at 68-70 Jer Manston, August Mantel Maidan, Mumbal 400 Dab, India and has requested the said Sank to permit operations of the Bank Locket and/or transfers all amounts in the accounts of the late Ahmed Abdulla Hirli with Sank Locket and/or transfers all amounts in the accounts of the Life Gulbanu Abdulla Hirli with Sank Bank Locket and/or transfers all amounts in the accounts of the Life Gulbanu Abdulla Hirli with Sank Bank Locket and a longiness on an expeditors or otherwise however are hereby notilled to inform the Chief Manager of the Sald Chief if any, falling which said chief if any, falling which the Sald this Wastra will be permitted to operate and/or open the Sald Chief in the Sald I wondered will be transfered to the Sald Mar Varia and all country of the sald I we deceated will be transfered to shall be considered at having teen walved Dated the 26 day of March 1997 Versta Abdulla (Hirja TRUSTEE ACTS NOTICE is becaby given pursuant to \$27 of the TRUSTEE Act 1925 that any person having CLAIM against or an INTERS in the STATE of any of the deceased person's whose 1925 that any pessele having a CLAIM against or no INTEREST in the ISTATE of any of the document person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are ser out helder is hereby required to send particular in writing of his chain or interest to the pessens re pursons mentioned in relation to the decursed person conceased before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the pursons multiple thereto having regard only to the clums and interests of which they have had socies. 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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

One of the things I recommend a defender to do is to ask himself "would the declarer have done this if he had that?" On the whole it's a useful tool, but not so effective against declarers who should have done "this", but didn't. Today's hand is an example.

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|------------------------|--|---------------------------|------|
| s | # 418 | R | E |
| 4 H Page Page | Pass Pass Double | Pass 5 H All Pass | 5C |

Contract: Five Hearts Doubled by South, Lead: king of diamo-

On this hand British international Graham Kirby was East, playing for Nottinghamshire in a county match. I don't see why his partner doubled Five Hearts. East-West had already won the bidding contest by pushing North-South one level higher.

Declarer won the diamond lead in dummy, and what he should have done was ruff a diamond in hand at trick two. Then he has three more entries to dummy (the ten of hearts, a club ruff and a spade) to establish and cash the fifth diamond. In all he makes

seven hearts in hand, a spade, two diamonds and a club ruff. However, after winning the diamond declarer led a club off the dummy. How should

Kirby defend after winning the ace of clubs? His best chance is to play a club back immediately. Now declarer is an entry short to establish the diamonds. He can still succeed if he finesses the seven of hearts, but in practice he is likely to go down.

But it was not clear to Kirby - the test I mention above deluded him. He returned a trump, thus making both the seven and ten entries to dummy. Now declarer came to his senses and did establish the long diamond. Difficult to counter bad play.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GREGORY POWDER a. Gunpowder b. Pink face powder

c. A laxative PLENILUNARY a. A VIP

b. A diplomat

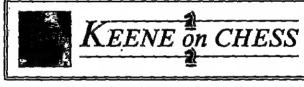
c. Full moonish

CARRACK a. A large West Indian yam b. To mock c. A big ship

ULTRAFIDIAN a. Too trusting b. Going beyond faith c. An Anabaptist

Answers on page 50

the terminal and the second



7 Bg2

12 Na4 13 Rb1

15 a3

21

27 Bh2 Kg2

25 Bd5

RJ3

35 Nc7

36 NDS

38 Ph2

KI1

d3

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Triumph of youth

Etienne Bacrot got off to a flying start in his pursuit of the grandmaster title when he won with Black against the tournament favourite, Viktor Korchnol, at Enchien-les-Rains

Korchnoi often chooses obscure openings to throw young players off track, but this strategy backfired against Bacrot, who swiftly established dominance against Korchnoi's artificial system and

then won a pawn.
Simply winning a pawn against Korcinoi is by no means a guarantee of victory. Black's extra pawn was doubled and isolated and only fine endgame technique. by Bacrot enabled him to capitalise on his advantage.

Towards the end, the inexorable

advance of Black's h-pawn defused Korchnoi's belated attempt at counter-attack with his knight against Black's queenside pawns. White: Viktor Korchnoi Black: Erienne Bacrot Enghien-les-Bains

Nimzowitsch-Larsen Attack Nf3 d5

2 53 Bg4 3 862 N/6 4 gpd3 **c5**

41 KH d3 42 Ac1 Re2 White resigns Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

2 Korchnol 2 Dodman 4 Russis 5 Astat -6 Spraggett 7 Ivanov 8 Citabenon 9 Fontaine 10 Anic

in the above table, 1 represents a win. + a draw and 0 a loss

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Alekhine - Van Mindeno, Holland 1933. White has sacrificed a piece for a strong attack along the h-file. Currently, however. Black has an escape square for his king on 17. Can you work out the clever sequence of moves by which White managed to bottle up the black king?

ing in the second secon Solution on page 50



Bjorkman, of Sweden, in action this week at Key Biscayne, where he has knocked Rios and Philippoussis out of contention

Men's game needs new blood

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN KEY BISCAYNE

THERE are moves afoot, heretical moves, to combine men and women at a series of tennis tournaments next year. It is heresy in as much as the men's game has, for so long, been the superior product, basking in the combined glories of Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi, Boris Becker and the boys. Women's tennis? Who cares? It is just Steffi Graf and

Looking at what is left of the men's draw here, though; the men are struggling to keep pace with the women. Since the tournament began, the spotlight has picked out the new names of the WTA Tour while the men's crowd-pullers have been distinctly quiet.

Sure enough. Sampras is still going strong - on Mon-day he skipped past Francisco Clavet to reach the fourth round 6-3, 7-6 — but, when it

to build a dual-purpose stadi-um, Wakefield Trinity rugby league and Wakefield rugby

union clubs are looking to exchange players and will

pool coaching and marketing

resources in a new joint

venture (Christopher Irvine

In selling their grounds and

moving to nearby Durkar, the

site of the proposed Yorkshire

County Cricket Club head-

quarters, the Wakefield clubs

writes).

comes to moments of history. Sampras winning a match is hardly worth a mention.

While the women's tour is rubbing its hands with glee at the prospect of Martina Hingis, Venus Williams and Anna Kournikova growing up together, the men have few new names to steal the limelight, while the old faithfuls are not as reliable as before. Agassi is a lost cause. Chang has all the fire and passion of a public-service announcement, so much so that he makes Sampras appear fascinating.

The men's fourth round draw here features only four seeds, alongside a group of four Swedes, two Spaniards and an assortment of names that struggle to raise a flicker of recognition outside their own country. Even there it is touch and go with Gaston Eltis, an unknown qualifier from Argentina, who faces

Sergi Bruguera.
The bright young things

RUGBY LEAGUE

Wakefield clubs to pool resources

league and union clubs in

Leeds, who share Headingley, and London Broncos, who

moved in with Harlequins

last month at the Stoop me-

The 15,000-capacity stadi-um could be ready within two

years, ahead of the plan by

Yorkshire cricket to leave

Headingley. Assistance will

be sought from the National

Lottery. "We are not going to be stuck on the end of York-

morial ground.

making their mark on the circuit are equally unreliable. Marcelo Rios oozes talent but seems unconcerned whether he wins or not; Mark Philippoussis has all the right qualifications — tall, at 6ft 4in, and with a thundering service

Greg Rusedski, the Great Britain No 2, said yesterday that he hoped to recover from a wrist injury in time for the Davis Cup match against Zimbabwe at Crystal Palace next week. Tim Henman, the No 1, is doubtful with an elbow injury.

but his form is up and down. This week both of them fell foul of Jonas Bjorkman. another of Sweden's quietly gifted players, Rios in the third round and Philippoussis

shire cricket. This will be completely divorced," Nigel Foster, the Wakefield union

In the continuing farce over

first time in nine months of

Helens about the £1.35 mil-

issued a statement yesterday

that said negotiations with the

club chairman, said.

been terminated".

yesterday. It was not a good day for Philippoussis. Three points into the match he fell and had to have treatment to an ankle before losing his service. From there on he was playing catchup as Bjorkman confused the issue by reading his service, getting to it early and forcing Phillippousis to play.

That is seldom a wise move

for Philippousis. He has the ability to leather the ball with such venom that he can either deliver a scorching winner or send the ball into the next county. Yesterday there was rather too much of the latter as he went out 6-3, 6-4. Maybe it would help if

Philippoussis could find a single voice of reason to help him. Over the three years of his career, he has changed coaches more often than his socks. He began with Nick, his father, before working through Ian Occleshaw, Paul McNamara, Gavin Hopper, Brett Stephens, Tony Roche, Nick Bollettieri, Todd Viney, back to McNamara and then

hack again to Hopper - and Philippousis is only 20. Still, provided that they leave his service alone, nobody is going to complain. Yesterday he was regularly hitting the 120mph mark, with a 134mph thrown in, That service, though, can cause problems and not just to the man on the other side of the net. Philippoussis does not expect to see his service re-

turned and when it is he is

rattled. His solution to that is

to try to hit the ball harder and

harder, which just gets him into more trouble. At least, with his Ferrari and, on his day, the ability to beat the best, he has something approaching a marketable image. If the rest of the top ten could match the quality of the tennis with a hint of a personality, they might just grab the headlines back from the women, even if they have missed their chance here in

SNOOKER

Griffiths emphasises value of experience

BY PHIL YATES

THAT a year away from the first-round draw. In typically lestyn Harris's future at Warrington, the club, not for the tables has not dampened the tenacious fashion, he stole one competitive fires that burn on-off discussions with St within Terry Griffiths quickly became obvious as he estab-Lion-listed Great Britain back. lished a 6-3 lead over Alfie Burden in the final qualifying round of the Embassy world championship at Telford Knowsley Road club "have

vesterday. Griffiths, 49, the only player to capture the title on his first visit to the Crucible Theatre, retired at the end of last season, when 23rd in the world rankings, in order to concentrate on his duties as the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Associ-

ation director of coaching.

Those who watched him frequently outwit Burden found it hard to believe that he had not played a match for II months. Burden led 3-1 before Griffiths, who shot to national prominence by becoming world champion in 1979, brought his vast experience to

He had runs of 72 and 52 during a sustained comeback that left him requiring only four of the remaining ten frames to secure a place in the

frame on the blue and two others on the black,

Dennis Taylor, winner at the Crucible in 1985, and Willie Thorne, another of the game's easily recognisable forty-somethings, also overcame hesitant starts. Taylor fought back from 5-1 down against Lee Walker to trail only 5-4 while Thorne transformed a 4-2 deficit against Dominic Dale into a 5-4 lead.

Andy Hicks, who included Steve Davis and Peter Ebdon among his notable scalps en route to the last four of the 1995 world championship, es-tablished a commanding 7-2 advantage over Matthew Ste-

vens, of Carmarthen. Hicks, who has reached the semi-final stage of the United Kingdom championship. Ben-son and Hedges Masters and European Open, constructed breaks of 44, 46, 120, 42, 69 and 74 while moving into a strong position against an opponent who defeated Stephen Hendry in the first round of the Grand Prix this

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 49

GREGORY POWDER

(c) A lazative powder, containing rhubarb, magnesium and ginger. The eponym of a Scottish doctor, who invented it, and died in 1822. This should surprise no one, "Mmmmm," you murmur appreciatively, as you taste the herbal dust the your hostess has just sprinkled liberally on your Spag Bog. "It is not unlike gregory powder, isn't it?" and let the triple negative fight for itself. PLENILUNARY

(c) Pertaining to the full moon. A usefully obscure word for excuses. "I'm frightfully sorry, Lucinda. Normally we should love to come round tonight, but it's that time of the month again. problem." CARRACK

(c) A large ship of burden, which was also fitted for fighting. A cargo battleship or armoured cargo ship. ULTRAFIDIAN

(b) Going beyond faith. An obscure theological concept. "I suppose it would be outrageously ultrafidian to expect Anatole to arrive on time."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE I NeS! dxe5 (I ... Qxe5 2 Qxe5 dxe5 3 gb and mates) 2 gb! Qxg6 3 Qc4→ and

PRICES NOW INCLUDE PREE UK DELIVERY TO TIMES READERS (REST OF WORLD ADD 11 PER ITEM). STERLING/US DOLLAR CHEQUES ONLY. (II-US\$ 1.45). TIMES CROSSWORDS. Books (III.12.15 E.89) each. The Times Concine - Book 2 (200 pazzles) 15.99. Creseword Solver's Dictionary E11.95 (UK only). Creseword Mannat 17.99 The First Commiss. Brank of The Sunday Times Crosswords. The Jand Ornalizes Book of The Times Crosswords. The Third Book of The Times Jounbo Crosswords (Cypuid 14.49) each. The Times Crosswords. The Third Book of The Times Jounbo Crosswords (Cypuid 14.49) each. The Times Crosswords on Componer 18. Times Commission of Componer 18. Times Crosswords (III) of Commission of Commission of Componer 18. Times Crosswords (III) of Commission of Componer 18. Times Commission of Componer 18. Times Crosswords (III) of Commission of Commis

TELEVISION CHOICE

Meteorites and marvels

BBC2, 7.00pm

There could be no better subject for playing the wonders game than Dr Monica Grady, the enthusiastic curator of meteorites at the Natural History Museum. You feel she could get excited about the telephone book, given half a chance, though none of her seven choices is anything like as mundane. She is obviously a person who loves her job, for meteorites come top of the list (and occupy one third of the programme) and her place of work, the splendid cathedral-like Victorian museum in South Kensington, is not far behind. She also enthuses over the Antarctic, partly because it is such a good source for her beloved meteorites, and the night sky. But Dr Grady displays an off-duty side as well. Among her wonders is hearing the heartbeat of her unborn son. She confesses that it reduced her to tears.

Survival Special: Hunters of the Silver Shoals

For a change, a wildlife documentary stays in Britain, or at least in British waters, though the material is no less exotic or beguiling. The story, as so often, is of a delicate ecosystem being thrown out of joint by the actions of man. The pivotal character of the film is also one of the smallest. The sand eel of the film is also one to the stratest. The same centereds in its millions, forming the silver shoals of the title and providing essential food for grey seals, seabirds such as puffins, guillemots and kittiwakes, and even whales. The sand eel is also vital to the diet of cod, haddock, whiting and the diet of cod, haddock, whiting and the same of the same code figures for the same code. monkfish. When Shetlanders started fishing for sand eels in the 1970s, the effect on birdlife in particular was catastrophic. It was worse even than the Braer oil spill which polluted the seas around Shetland five years ago. But good sense eventually prevailed.

Modern Times: Time of Their Lives BBC2, 9.00pm

Sounding the Century: Rites of Spring

Radio 3, 7.30pm

Brenda Ward and Tony Wright are terminally ill. She has a malignant brain tumour and he has leukaemia. But both have been able to take advantage of a company which enables them to eash in their life insurance policies before they die. Cathy Elliott's sympathetic film intercuts their



Dr Monica Grady (BBC2, 7.00pm)

stories and shows how they decided to enjoy their sudden windfall. For Ward, a former nurse, if was a seven-week trip round the world with her husband, with extended stops in South Africa and Australia. Wright, too, made for Australia. But the move was permanent, as he exchanged a home in London Docklands for a more spacious one in the countryside of Queensland. Given five years to live, he has had four of them but is so retreshed by the move that he says he feels guilty at not dying. Ward, too, feels better than she has for years.

The Big C

BBC1, 10.25pm Wendy Richard alias Pauline Fowler in EastEnders, herself a cancer sufferer presents a two-part documentary (concluding tomorrow) which sets out to demystify the disease. The focus is on six patients of the Christie Hospital in Manchester, chosen to Illustrate different types of manchester, chosen to intustrate different types of cancer. The emphasis is on people responding positively, even when the prognosis is not good. The programme is peppered with upbeat statistics about the improved chances of surviving cancer, though there is no denying the plight of 14-year-old lan, who has bone cancer and is on his fifth. operation. It may seem strange that a woman with lung cancer is still smoking ten to 15 cigarettes a day, though it is the cue for Ryan Giggs and the Neville brothers from Manchester United to urge youngsters not to start the habit. Peter Waymark

This new behind-the-somes series starts with the

woice of James Turnbull, one of two coroners for West Yorkshire, expressing his gratitude to those who gave up their privacy in order to take part in the programmes. There is a hint in that statement of the remarkably detailed, often moving and occasionally harrowing nature of the work here

revealed. The cases are in themselves mostly routine - road accident fatalities, a fall from a roof

but the nuts and bolts of the examinations are fascinating without ever straying into prurience. One of the stars, if she will forgive the word, is Cate Foster, a coroner's officer, whose approach reveals

Peter Barnard

RADIO CHOICE

The Coroner Radio 4, 7.20pm

concerned sensitivity.

Radio 3, 7.30pm

Many will probably regard this as the highlight of the entire week's programming on Radio 3 and not without justification. Stravinsky's opera The Rake's Progress is a towering and uplitting work which even those (such as me) who have difficulty with the theatrical aspects of opera find riveting in its purely surral form. Stravinsky based the work on drawings by Hogarth depicting the corruption of society and the libretto is by W. H. Auden. Tonight's performance is by the BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Davis, and the cast includes the tenors Barry Banks and Robin Leggate, soprano Joan Rodgers, mezzos Nuala Willis and Jane Henschel, baritone William Shimell and bass Alastair Miles.

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radditte 9.00 Dave Pearce 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbest 8.30 Evening Session with Steve Lamacc 8.30 John Peat 10.30 Mary Anne Holbs 1.00am Claire Sturgess 4.00 Clive Warren with the Early Breaklest Show

8,00em Nick Barractough 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen 9.30 Alex Leater 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewert 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on Two 8.00 Boys of the Lough (f) 8.30 The Music of Japan (2/4) 9.00 Antie Bhaka's Across Two Cultures: Merk Tully (8/5) 9.30 Nigel Ogden 10.30 The Jamesone 11.45 Sab of the Earth (7/7) 12.05em Stave Medden 3.00 Charles Nove RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00mm Moming Reports 6.00 The Breedast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Invendale Nationwide 7.30 News Extra with Richard Hearing 7.20 Trevor Brooking's Footbell Night. Includes a look ahead to a weekend of international footbal plus the results of the National Lottery draw 10.00 Dominik Diamond 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours 2.05em Up Ali Night

5.00mm Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lonzane Kelly 2.00pm Tenumy Boyd 4.00 Peter Dealey 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportszone 10.00 Jemes Whale 1.00mm Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in CMT News on the hour, 5.30am Europe Today 6.30 Europa Today 7.15 Red Dwart (10/12) 7.30 Discovery 8.10 Words of Feth 8.15 Global Shake-Out 9.07 World News 9.15 Andy Kershaw 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.30 BBC English 9.15 Andy Kershaw 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Fled Dwerf (10/12) 11.30 A History of British Theatre 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 British Today 12.30 Composer of the Morth 2.05 Cuttook 2.30 Megamb, 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Global Shake-Out 4.15 World Today Sports Houndup 3.15 clock State-Cut 4.15 World Today
4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Business
Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 8.30 Discovery 7.01 Outlook
7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multitrack 9.15 Britain Today 9.30
Menician On Screen 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup
11.10 Science View 11.15 Country Style 11.30 Multitrack
12.30ems From Our Own Correspondent 12.45 Britain Today
1.30 Outlook 1,55 Words of Faith 2.30 Assignment 3.15 Sports
Soundup 3.30 Menician Brobs 4.30 Europa Today Toundup 3.30 Mendian Books 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Margaret Howard 2,00pm Lunchtime Concerto. Leopold Mozert (Trumpel Concerto in D major) 3,00 Jamie Crick 7,00 Classic Newenight 7,30 Sonsta. Heych (Keyboard Sonsta in D major) 8,00 Evening Concert. Mccarl (Don Glovanni, Overture); Hichard Strates (Don Juan, Op 20); Tchelkovsky (Varietions on a Roccoo Theme, Op 33); Rachmaninov (Symphony No 2 in E minor, Op 27) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mei Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6,00mm Ruse 'n' John 10.00 Graham Dené 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4,00 Nicky Home 7,00 Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Benks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00mm Randal Lee Rose

5.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Schubert
(Symphony No 5 in 8 flat); Suk (Summer
Impressions, Op 22b); J.C. Bach (Flute Concerto
in G); Balakirev (Overtuse on Three Russian
Themes); Chabrier (Suite Pastorale); Gereinwin
(Rhapsody in Blue, original version)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday Includes
John Field (Noctumes No 3 in A flat; No 4 in A);
Prolodisev (Volon Concerto No 2); Vaughan
Williams (Partita for Double String Orchestra)

10.00 Musical Ecounters, with Edward Blakeman,
Includes Rossini (Les Adieux a la Vie); Mantinu (La
Revue de Cuisine), Locatelli (Flute Sonata No 9 in
E); Strauss (Arabella, Aci 1, Finale); Copland
(Music for the Theatre)

12.00 Composer of the Weeld Miczart, with Richard
Wigmore Includes Miczart (Namos, König in
Agyben, excerpts, Sinoria Concertante in A,
K320e, Zaide, excerpts)

1.00pm Concert Maß. Live from the Wigmore Half,
London, Florestan Tito, Schuber (Nottumo in E
flat, D897): Brahms (Plano Tito No 1 in B, Op 8)

2.00 Mildweek Cholce, with Susan Sharpe, Includes
Schnittle (Prelude in Memoriam Dmitri
Shostalovich); Flachmaninov (Suite No 2 for two
pianos, Op 17); Lennox Berkeley (Four Poems of
St. Teresa of Avila)

4.00 Choral Vespers, Live from Westminster Cathedral
with a homiky by the Rt Rev Mex George Stack

St Teresa of Avita)

4.00 Choral Vespers. Live from Westminster Cathedral with a homily by the Rt Rev Mgr George Stack. Includes Palestrara (Magnificat Quarti Toni)

5.00 Murale Machtine. Caroline Swinburne meets the Zimbaloween singer Thomas Maplumo

5.15 In Turre, with Chris de Souza, Includes Alkan (Comme le Veni): Beethoven (Variations on Kind, Willat Du Ruhig Schlaten, WoO75); Klami (Overture: King Lear)

7.30 Rites of Spring. See Choice. The with, three-act opera about a corrupted society, by Strawfikey, W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman. With Joan Rodgers, soprano, Berry Banks, tenor, Philip Ens. bass, William Shimmel, bartone. Susan Bickley, mezzo, Jane Henschel, contrello, Robin Leggale, tenor, the BBC Singers and BBC Symphony Orchestra, under Andrew Davis

10.10 Christopher Logue's True Story: Poetry. Part three of a ractio autobiography

10.30 Membra Jeau Nostri, by Detrich Susethude The fifth cantate Ad pectus follows Alan Howard's reading of Meria Magdaler's Complaint at Christ's Death by Robert Southwell (5/7).

10.45 Night Waves. Tony Palmer explores the enduring nature of drug culture and looks at its impact on the erts, from contemporary fiction to the art galiery. He also discusses Baz Luhmenn's film adaptation of Romeo and Juliet and asks it it will sell Shakespeare to the modern youth audience

11.30 Composers of the Weelc Cowell (r)

12.30am Jazz Nofes. Digby Falrweather introduces the first part of the Ray Brown Tiro's concert recorded at last year's Glasgow International Jazz Festival

1.00am Through the Night, with Donald Macleod Includes 1.00 Borromeo Cuartet. Beethoven (String Quartet in D minor. DB10, Deeth and the Maiden) 2.00 Concerto Italiano, under Rinaldo Alessandnin, Includes works by Vecchi Siriggio and Banchien 3.50 gBC. Symphony Orchestra, under Simon Joly, Messaeni L Ascension 4.15 Syfvia sass, soprano, Hungarian State Orchestra, under Simon Joly, Messaeni L Ascension 4.15 Syfvia sass, soprano, Hungarian State Orchestra, under Firin Lukacs, Verdi (Scene: Willow Song, Ave Maria, Otello); Strauus (Four Last Songs) 5.00 Sequence

BADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Brefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with Times columnist Lioby Purves and the guests of the day 10.00 News; Viewing Essential (FN). See Choice 10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour. Jernii Murray talks to Christine Suthertand, the biographer of the Romanian princess, writer and socialite, Merthe Bibesco 11.30 Gendeners' Queetion Time. From Birmingham, with Nigel Colorn, Pipa Greenwood, Bob Flowerdew and the chairman Eric Robson (r) 12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Roddoch 12.25pm Envious Casca, Based on the cornedy thriller by Georgette Heyer. With James Fleet, Helen Baxendale and Lastle Philipos (3/4) 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.35 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; The Hollow Man, by John Dickson Carr. Dramatised by Peter Ling. A doctor becomes involved with a mystery when an illusionst threatens a professor. Starring Donald Sinden and Nigel Daverport (1/2) 2.45 The Vegetable Patch: Beans. The last programme in the senes about vegetables 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan. David Brooks investigates a 1,300-year-old controversy when he visits By Cathedral in Cambridgeshire

controversy when he visits Ely Cathedral in

Cambridgeshire
4.00 News 4.05 Kateldoscope, Paul Gambridgeshire
Strictly Batteron director Baz Luhrmann's film
version of Romeo and Judiet and reviews a new recording of music by Arvo Part

4.45 Short Story: These Blocks are Actually People, by Ruth Thomas. A young biology leacher changes her mind about both art and people when she visits an art gallery. Read by

people when she visits an art gallery. Flead by Ermina Currie

5.00 PMI, with Chris Lowe and Nigel Wrench 5.50

Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Stv O'Clock News

6.30 Counterpoint, with Ned Sherrin (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Coroner. See Choice (1/6)

8.05 The Wardrobe. The series that takes a look at clothing through anecdote, anchive and music. This week's subject is the wastcoat [5/6] (r)

8.15 The People's Peace Professor Kenneth Morgan explores another important theme of postwar Britain [5/6] (r)

8.15 The People's Peace Professor Kanneth Morgan explores another important theme of postwar Britain (5/6) (r)

9.00 Coating the Earth. In the first of a new environmental series, Mark Whitaker repons on contraband CPCs, more valuable than crack cocame, smuggled from Russa to Miami (1/8)

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Reading in the Dark, by Seamus Deane Read by Stephen Rea (3/8)

11.00 Trust. The second series of Wendy Lee's satire on N1S trusts. With Nerva Hughes, Kerth Allen and Margi Clarke (2/6)

11.30 Doon Your Way. A comedy showcase teaturing Flush FM broadcasting from a portation in Peckham. With Doon Mackdchan, Pam Ferris and Lessy Shap (r)

PECKNAIN. WITH LOOM MACKICHAN, Part Ferns a Lestey Sharp (f) 11,30 Racing Pigs and Glant Macrows (LW) 12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: The Wasp Factory, by Jain Banks (3/10) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1, FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. PM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.



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A positively inspirational night's viewing

ter: unexpectedly annoimces a strange desire to catch at least a moment of The 69th Annual Academy Awards flive on BBC2 highlights on BBC1). We creep downstairs, pre-pare drinks, turn set on and find surprise - Debbie Reynolds being really quite farmy about not being nominated and a wonderful cutaway to Barbra Streisand not laughing at all. Reynolds eventually opens envelope and presents Oscar for best wonderful music to: crikey, a girl I used to be at university with.

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After Transfer

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Like revenge, under-achieve-ment is a dish best eaten cold and takes some beating at 4am, consumed under the reproachful stare of the next generation. Daughter offers to share bottle and I seriously consider accepting. Creep back to bed, but not before anchoring "Must try harder" note to fridge door with frog-magnet.

Wake up and things quickly improve thanks largely to the lingering warm after-glow from watching Network First: The Blind School (ITV). When filmmakers tackle "difficult" subjects such as disabilities, they traditionally opt for one of two routes to ensure we don't take the easy. channel-hopping way out. They either mawkishly sentimentalise (which this did not) or they present those with the disability in such a brave and positive light that switching over, or even off, becomes an act of personal betrayal. Alan Macmillan's film about the Royal Blind School in Edinburgh followed the second path in textbook style, producing television that was alternately moving, inspiring and funny - and unexpectedly easy to watch.

What it did not produce, I suspect, is completely honest television. Where were the tears, the anger, the frustrations that are a that he used the tragically

part of all lives, let alone young lives coping with what one teacher vividly described as "the grief for the loss of their sight? Macmillan would point to individual scenes and say it was all there - and we did indeed meet a highly engaging bunch of youngsters, whose re-sponse to blindness covered the spectrum from pent-up rage to extraordinary serenity. "What you don't have, you don't miss," shrugged Vicky Haylott, who rather stole the show (and certainly the lead part in the school's production of Oklahoma!) through being blonde, beautiful and blessed with a fine singing voice.

thers, however, were not so fortunate and while one can understand Macmillan's decision to concentrate on the positive (activities included roller-skating, rock-climbing and waterskiing), it seemed unforgivable

6.00am GMTV (6158794)

9.25 Chain Letters (1) (4064046)

10.00 The Time, the Place (38171)

12.30 Name (T) and weather (6189713) 12.55 Shortland Street (6163404)

1.50 Afternoon Live (56255572)

2.20 Vanessa (T) (56255572)

3.20 News (1503779)

2.50 Atternoon Live (5519152)

1.25 Home and Away (r) (T) (47098220)

3.25 Regional News and weather(6458620)

3.30 Tots TV (r) (4503299) 3.40 The Blobs

7.00 Emmerdale The Dingles battle of the burgers hots up and Viv is desperate to

7.30 Coronation Street Don gloats as he

make a fresh start for the children's sale

Alan Turner reluses to turn a blind eye to

takes a particularly cruel revenge on Mike, white Des decides to draw a line

under the past and start alresh (T) (355)

A gray seal hunting (8.00pm)

the North Sea (1) Followed by Nationa

Washington and Sam Shepard, A

perceptive law student submits a brief about an assessination conspiracy, little

realising her theories have hit the nail on the head Directed by Alan J. Pakula.

tinues after the news (1) (7356)

8.00 SHORE Survival Special: Hunters of the Silver Shoals Striking footage of the varied wildlife that inhabits

9.00 The Pelican Brief (1993) Complex lens thriller, with Julia Roberts, Denzel

10,40 FILM: The Pelican Brief Conclusion of

12,20am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club

12.50 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol

1.15 Film: Love Among Thieves (1987) Adventure with Audrey Hepburn, Robert Wagner and Jerry Orbach. Directed by Roger Young (168114)

Lottery Result (7591)

10,00 News (T) and weather (90510)

tonight's film (T) (13382274)

10,30 Regional News (T) (850107)

3,00 Jones and Jury (69492621)

4.30 The Time, the Place (62896)

5.00 Coronation Street (88466)

3.30 Not Fade Away (77640)

(6664485)

(3871602)

5.30 News (15422)

5.10 Look and Cook (r) (T) (5933607)

5.40 News (T) and weather (708775) 6.00 Home and Away (542572)

Teny's behaviour (T) (6238)

6.25 HTV Weather (451881)

6.30 HTV News (171)

(9212662) 3.50 Sooty and Co (r) (2035607) 4.40 Cone Zone (1) (4696626)

9.55 Regional News (5876133)

10,30 This Morning (58749682) 12.20 pm Regional News (1) (7848930)

KEWIWS



Bond

misarranged features of one little girl to grab our attention in early scenes, without later giving her the opportunity to show she was a real human being. But with the personable likes of

Elizabeth-Ann ("call that a kerb?" she said derisively, bashing a very modest cobble with the white stick she was learning to use) and Vicky around, Macmillan's approach was always going to produce feelgood television. Take Vicky, for and, best/worst of all, the unrelenting ance, on the frustrations of ing, mood-setting music. flirting. "I do use a lot of eye contact, but if the guy's blind you do think - what's the point?". In summary, Macmillan's film was an inspiring joy to watch, but somewhere on the cutting room floor were the scenes that might have made it a more honest film as

The rest of the evening found me in reflective mood, which is always dangerous in a critic. Take Peak Practice (TTV), the current series of which has seen me embark on an extraordinary voyage of discovery. For the opening weeks I thought it was simply too awful to be worth watching. Then there were a few highly enjoyable weeks when it seemed to have become so bad it. was unmissable. A happy hour could be spent cringing at the Peak Practice horrors - the coffee mugs, the chunky jumpers, Dr Matthew's ill-advised mini-skirts

Tow, however, my voyage seems to have brought me to the hitherto mythical island of third thoughts. Might Peak Practice actually be quite good? I mean, last night's certainly was. OK, so yet another story line began with yet another person collapsing in front of one of the doctor's cars (in real life you can go five years without seeing anybody collapse in public, in Cardale they numble like nine-pins). And yes, the argument about whether The Beeches should treat drug addicts did get bogged down in still more technical, fund-holding detail. But the acting, particularly from Laura Crossley as the addict who wanted to come off methadone and Darren Tighe, as her ghastly junkie boy-friend, was excellent and the unrepennantly sentimental ending well-handled

As for Dr Matthews (Saskia Wickham), there was good and bad news. The good news is that she finally appears to have discovered trouser suits. The bad news is that she is being pursued ever more ardendy by Dr Attwood (Gary Mavers). I noticed that Anwood drives a car with the registration prefix GYT. Must be one of those personalised ones.

Finally, the warm glow with which I greeted The House Detec-tives (BBC2) is fading rapidly. Last night's Fenland farmhouse was indeed a fascinating building, but the programme was again horribly over reliant on Juliet Morris's gap-filling narration to cram two centuries of history into half an hour and never seemed to get to get to the bottom of anything. And that includes the long-lost cellar, the "discovery" of which was shamefully claimed with the help of a long knitting needle. It's not just me who "must try harder".

BBC1

6:00am Business Breakfast (66713) 7.00 BBC Breekfast News (1) (54607) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1) (5752978) 9.20 Style Challenge (4009355) 9:45 Kilroy (4772220)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (80133) 11.00 News (T) Regional News and weather (6705317)

11.65 The Really Useful Show (7317048) 11.35 Change That (8992978) 12.00 News (1) Regional News (7859046) 12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5890249) 12.30 Going for a Song (6160317) 12.55 The Weather Show (79224881) 1.00 One O'Clock News (57794) 1,30 Regional News (83901626) 1.40 Neighbours (T) (11298133)

2.05 Police Rescue Angel faces up to the truth about his father (2756046) 2.55 Racing from Ascot (3448607) 3.50 ChuckleVision (\$770626) 4.10 Popeye and Son (1759152) 4.35 The Wild HouseLast in series (\$704539)

5.00 Newsround (1) (3064442) 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (2715323) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (565997) 5.00 Stx O'Clock News (423) 6.30 Regional News (775)

7.00 Noel's Telly Years Olympic ice-skating champion Robin Cousins and gameshow host Ted Rogers remember television and news from 1980 (8510)

7.30 Tomorrow's World Coverage of the Prince of Wales Awards for innovation. Entrents include a decorator who has invented wood-effect paint and a firm which has dramatically improved the sethma Inhaler (959)

8.00 The National Lottery Live Carol Smille introduces the draw and discovers how one of the lucky jackpot winners is coping with life as a millionaire (614387)

8.15 25 Years of the Two Ronnies Classic clips from Messrs Barker and Corpett (857268) 8.50 Points of View Presented by Anne

Robinson (229084) 9,00 Nine O'Clock News (2317)

9,29 National Lottery Update (475882) 9.30 Inciders Journalists descend on the prison after a government White Paper is published. Woody is promoted, but a personal revelation threatens to end his upwardy-mobile career prematurely. Last in series (438539)

10.20 The Big C EastEnders star Wendy Richard describes her experience of fighting against breast cancer (470775)

11.15 Under the Influence Sophie Aldred and guests Wendy Perriam and Professor Anthony Clare examine whether or not tinere are any psychological benefits to be gained from a religious approach to life (331355)

11.30 Ordinary People (1980) Oscar-winning drama, directed by Robert Redford, starring Donald Sutherland and Mary Tyler Moore (77317) 1.30mm Weether (3257176)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programme isting are Video PlusCode "numbers, which issing are Video PlusCode "numbers, and allow your to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ "handset Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record, Videoplus+ ("), Pluscode (")

6.00am Open University: Cetalysts Against Pollution (7788978) 6.25 Sensing Intelligence (7790713) 6.50 Information Technology (T) (9522442) 7.15 News (T)

(7694133) 7.30 Lassie (8455775) 7.55 Secret Life of Toys (r) (3134171) 8.10 Wacky Races (5235510) 8.35 Record Breakers Gold (r) (T) (5411133) 9.00 Activ-8 (82591) 9.30 Sweet Valley High (r) 9.55 Calve Doke (7550171) 10.10 Play-days (9905626) 10.30 Bebar (88775) 11.00 Lassle: The Road Back (1974) Lassle Fillar Moder (1883084)

12.15pm National Trust Gardens (5952133) Spm National Trust Gardens (5852133) 12.30 Working Lunch (39997) 1.00 Secrat Life of Toys (r) (59856539) 1.15 Pains of Glass (102046) 2.15 Racing from Ascot (8838794) 3.00 News (T) (5008189) 3.05 Going Going Gone (9832978) 3.35 The Beauty Spot (5757775) 3.55 News (T) (6112404) 4.00 Today's the Day (688) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (572) 5.00 Eether (T) (3688) 5.30 The Village (564268) 5.55 Turning Points Verity Lambert explains

how Dr Who changed her life (202442) 6.00 Star Treic The Next Generation The chance of peace in an inter-planetary conflict is harmed when a diplomat loses the ability to communicate (r) (T)

6.45 Trev and Simon's Transmission Impossible (989249)

7.00 Seven Wonders of the World Scientists choose them personal wonders (T) (6152) 7.30 Black British Amold Gordon from Britton finds he is related to an African girl slave presented to Queen Victoria, who took responsibility for her welfare and education (T) (201)

8.00 University Challenge Hams Manchester College, Oxford v Newnham College, Cambridge (T) (2572) 8.30 Changing Rooms (r) (T) (1607)



are determined to live out their dreams before they die (T) (409591) 9.50 A Woman Called Smith A respected community midwite (T) (384171)

10.00 Embassy (33864) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (810539)

11.15 Bangladesh 25 (r) (145997) 12.00 The Phil Silvers Show (b/w) (11027)

Brenda and Steve Ward (9.60pm)

9.00 Modern Times The story of two terminally ill people who

12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: Regional differences in health (58060) 1.00 Bloodistes (25485) 1.30 First Steps to Autonomy (39176) 2.00 Get by in Spanish/Get by in Italian/Bon Mot (48992) 4.00 BBC Focus English Heritage (35260) 4.30 Unicel in the Classroom (62850) 5.00 Health and Sately at Work (84640) 5.30 Voluntary Matters (12756)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12,55pm-1,25 A Country Practice (6163404) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5933607) 6.25-7.00 Central News (840997) 12.20mm Dating the Enemy (8056447)

1.20 Funky Bunker (5988824) 2.15 The Chart Show (6966396) 3.20 Comedy Central (2068553) 4.15 Central Jobfinder '97 (4951350)

5.20 Asian Eye (8765379)

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 lituminations (7848930) 12.55-1.25 Emmerdale (8163404)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5933807) 6.00-7.00 Westpountry Live (34442)

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (6163404) 5,10-5.40 Home and Away (5933607) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (591) 6.30-7.00 Home Truths (171)

5,00mm Freescreen (88486)

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (7867065) 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (6163404) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5933607) 6.23 Anglia Weather (452510) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (840997) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (600881)

SIC . Starts: 6.00mm Sesame Street (59423)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (47317) 9.00 Bewitched (84959) 9.30 Film: Where No Vultures Fly (1951). Adventure set in Kenya starring Anthony Steel as a game warden in conflict will

ivory poachers (71898626) 11.25 The Pink Penther (9750959) 11,50 Terrytoons (4321423)

12,00pm House to House (97423) 12.30 Baby It's You (24085) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (40404) 1.30 Film: Tlare Tahiti (1962) starring John

Mills and James Meson as army officers who carry over their wartime cla struggle on to the peaceful Pacific Island (55126888) 3.20 Fresh Pop (9808341)

3,30 Collectors' Lat (249) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (864) 4,30 Wild Britnin (268) 5.00 5 Pump (1084) 5.30 Countdown (220) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (166201) 6.05 Heno (560978) 6.35 Jacpot (468171) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (670249) 7.25 Plermio (945336)

8.00 Phwoer! (7268) 8.30 Newyddion (6775) 9.00 Spin City (8355) 9.30 Roseanne (47571) 10.00 Brockside (119152)

10.35 ER (363046) 11.30 Caroline in the City (32997) 12.00 Under the Moon (506824) 2.30em-5,30 NBA XXL (4251485)

CHANNEL 4

6.00em Sessme Street (59423) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47317) 9,00 Bewitched (r) (T (84959)

9.30 Where No Vultures Fly (1951) with Anthony Steel and Harold Warrender. Adverture set in Kenya, Directed by Harry

11.25 The Pink Parither (f) (9750959) 11.50 Tenytoons (4321423) 12.00 House to House (97423) 12.30pm Light Lunch (27881) 1.30 Technological Threst (83994336) 1.40 Diplomatic Courier (1952) Espionaga

thriller with Tyrone Power, Patricia Neal and Hildegarde Neff. Directed by Henry

6.00 Party of Five Charile heads to Chicago to heal the rift with Kirsten and Sarah leams the truth about Balley's relationship with Calife (1) (302152)

6.50 Fresh Pop (139317) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) Includes headlines and weather (630305)

7.55 Betrayal (354959) 8.00 Brookside Can Julia persuada Jack to contess his guilty secret? Bel forces Office to make a tough choice (T) (7268)

8.30 An inspector Callie (3/6) A look at the work of the Royal Parks Constabulary. work of the Holes Pears Constanting, who keep the peacs in the four royal parks and the roads around Buckingham Palace. Among the 17 million visitors a year, PC Brian Mitchell and WPC Kim Anderson regularly have to deal with unlicensed food vendors and people classification of CONTRAL. sleeping rough (1) (6775)



Experiments on pupples (9.00pm)

Broughton tackies the lesius of chemical testing on dogs by going undercover into one of Britain's largest testing laboratories (T) (8355)

9.30 Forteen TV Father Lional Fanthorps investigates a floating nun from Thalland, a minipture skeleton linked with several ragedies and a dog with hypnotic powers (T) (47571)

10.00 ER Carter and Benton deal with the aftermath of Gent's death and the understaffed, overworked unit causes serious problems for Nurse Hathaway (1)

11.00 Friends Joey starts dating a besotted fan (r) (T) (4012)

11.30 Cheers Woody and Sam make a bel about who can kiss Rebecce first (r) (T) (32997)12.00 Under the Moon Danny Kelly hosts the interactive sports show (506824)

2.30 am NBA XXL (75718) 4,30 Transworld Sport (14195) 5.30 Backdate (r) (T) (15404)

Channel 5 launches 6pm on Easter Sunday.

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory. published on Saharday

6,00mm Morning Glory (624861) 9,00 Regisend Kathle Lee (35094) 10,00 Another World (82404) 11,00 Days of Our Lives (48226) 12,00 The Oprah Winfray Show (65336) 1,00pm Geraldo (74084) 2,00 Sally 148EE) 12.00 Ine Opten wetter Show (65336) 1.00pm Geraldo (74084) 2.00 Sally Jessy Paphael (60734) 3.00 Jenny Johas (74510) 4.00 The Oprah Wintrey Show (60317) 5.00 Star Traic The Next Generation (5065) 6.00 Real TV (5775) 8.30 Manual (\$085) 6,00 Reel TV (\$775) 8,30 Marriso — with Children (\$335) 7,00 The Simpsons (\$794) 7,30 M*A*S*H (\$539) 8,00 Sightings (\$339) 9,00 Sik Stallings (\$3135) 16,00 Murder One (\$620) 11,00 Selta Test. The Selta Generation (\$4481) 12,30mm LAPD (\$4500) 10,00 Mills 11,00 Mil (33832) 1.06 HM Mix Long Play (1437485)

7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys (6489317) 8.00 Remagade (5478065) 9.00 New York Undercover (6458201) 10.00 Water Rats (646688) 11.00 Late Show (6082591) 12.00 His Max (9

SKY NEWS Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on he nour. 24 hours a day

SKY MOVIES 8.00am Silver Bears (1978) (27572) 8.00 The Chairman (1969) (58606161) 9.45 Famy (1961) (6267862) 12.00 Return to Peyton Place (1961) (74997) 2.00pm The Gisest of Thunder Mountain (1990) 87572 4.00 Silver Bears (1976) (3387) 9.00 Pointmen (1994) (51256) 8.00 Congo (1985) (34521) 10.00 The Shooter 11995) (866336) 11.50 Red Shoo Diartes (869336) 11.50 Red Shoe Diaries (822336) 1.10am Double Cross 984) (1047485) 2,40 Come Die with Me (\$190244) 4.05 The Gian ler Mountain (1990) (296447)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00pm Wate Up and Druma (1946) (22775) 7.30 Salpyard Sally (1939) (2261775) 8.60 Willy Pog (1994) (486013) 10.10 Deddy Long Lags (1955) (10621336) 12.20pm The Other Woman Left Flaid (1979) #539) 5.00 Net Worth (1995) 51238) 3.00 Staggared (1994) 56743) 10.00 The Englishmen Who Went Up a Hill, But Came Down a Mountain (1995) (1973) 11.40 in the Mouth of Machees (1995) (2000) 1.20em The Burning Sesson (1995) (1996) 1.5899050 2.95 Characteristics (1995) SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Without Reservations (1946) 6.254133 8.00 The Couch Trip (1968) (366678, 10.00 Terms of Endaarment (1963) (673431711 12.20am I, the Jury (1982) (8146973) 2.10 The incident (1962) (6534973) 3.50-5.25 Pat and Mike (1962) (683:3911

9.00pm Anchers Aweigh (1945) (7989360) 12.30 Catlow (1971) (7989360) 1.15em Grand Central Mu-der (1942) (1740147) 2.35-5.00 Anchors Aweigh (1945) :36866757 SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1

7,00am Sports Centre (2012) 7:30

cling US Mountain Challenge (8472) 8:30

Racing News (3,959) 9:00 Sport (8553) 9:30 Sport (8553) 9:30 Sport (8553) 10:00 The Footballers Footballer

SKY SPORTS 3

7:30am Europeak (79794) 8:30 Norde: Contolled Skiring World Cup (58317) 10:00 TT Races (12171) 10:30 NFRA Drag Racing (30991) 11:00 Tractor Pulling (22046) 12:00 TF Races (12171) 10,30 NHRA Drag Racing (3659) 11,100 Teacher Pulling (2206) 12,00 Morosports, Report (68962) 1,00 pm Fact Migazine (26662) 1,30 Stam Magazine (86626) 1,30 Stam Magazine (86626) 2,00 Tenna: Lipton Chemponship (58084) 4,00 Magazine (5607) 6,00 Lipton Champonship — Live (38220) 8,00 Botton Champonship — Live (3824) 11,00 Tenns ATP Tour Review (79649) 11,30 Tenns ATP Tour Review (79649) 11,30 Tenns ATP Tour Review (79649) 11,30 Tenns ATP Tour Review (79649) 12,442 Tenns ATP Tour Review (79649) (2442) UK GOLD

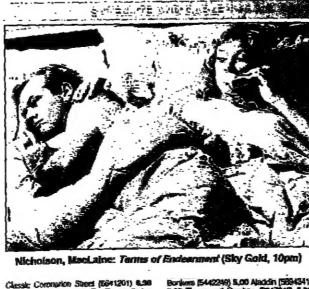
GRANADA PLUS

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430 7.50 Aus 4 00 The Doctor Sene-4 00 1 Romane (660) (20) als (6 41976 6.00)

EUROSPORT

7.00am 128, Lack (0343133) 7.85 Neighton 5 (199713) 8.00 Crostoads (187088) 8.25 EastEnders (8134220) 9.00 for Sil (2006712) 9.00 Don't War Up 19607 (10.00 fewer the Twan (409826) 10.30 The Salvant (2512084) 11.00 Seasting (811626) 12.00 Crossing (814626) Crossing (814626) 2.55 Alo. (814626) 8.00 Crossing (814626) 4.00 Crossing (81462 colurs carea and Small (5146249) 10 a - Jane Game (56121249) 6.05 1496(2) 6.40 Are You Being 28510) 7-20 Russ Abbot 7,50 Kullsaye (6618691) 8-20 fr. se alfti (5338404) 9.00 The 9:30 FILM: Who Dares 12.00 Sports Angral of the 12.30am Hazel (7042114 * up of the Paps (6374114) Night

m Factor (14737-44) **6.30** 9914613 i) **6.45** Atmonis 7 **00** 7 (Got 4261201) Turr 5.3840661 7.30 12:00 SSC Concession Sheet 12:30cm Fanue: 7406886 6316936 1:30 The 4:359/2:00AF .ndy & 3.00 flostary Flowrishes



Classic Coronation Street (5641201) 6.38 Families (9655881) 7.00 The Doctor Series (6742907) 7.30 Mised Blessings (8651085) 8.00 Upsters, Downstains (7149404) 8.00 Classic Coronation Street (1432713) 9.30 Comedwas (7411152) 18.00-11.00 THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Mouse Tracks (7622125) 6.25 Quack Atlack (8377210) 6.50 Bonkers

Ouesis, Anack (8377210) 6-50 Bentent (3084794) 7-15 The Lifts Marmeid (1379881) 7-80 Aladdin (2564891) 8-25 Mighly Ducks (3774807) 8-26 Three and Pumbes (1844823) 8-40 The Care Beats (155529) 9-10 Groundling Marsh (2574626) 9-40 Big Garante (8740807) 9-55 Lamb Chop (9562775) 10-25 Muppet Babes (5623775) 10-25 Muppet Babes (5623775) 10-25 Muppet Babes (5623775) 11-20 Dumber's Cross (1557882) 11-20 Munus Tracks (4010377) 11-50 Pools Come! (1882152) 12-20 pm Timon and Pumbes (8534713) 12-35 The Lefts Mermad (15166794) 1-30 Olersey (1496720) 2-35 Bonkers (5458989) 3-30 Cuach Attack (7788779) 3-25 Timon and Pumbas (4496220) 2-35 Gool Troop

Borkers (5442249) 5.00 Aladdin (5894341) 8.25 Timon and Pumbas (8947040) 5.35 Dertwing Duck (433950) 6.00 Mightly Ducks (2881) 6.30 Boy Meets World (3133) 7.00 Brotherly Love (7220) 7.30 Fipper (308317) 8.18 Touched by an Angel (581713) 9.00 Life's Work (44317) 9.30-FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00mm Three Linie Chasts (5637607) 6.30 Inspector Guidget (7036355) 7.00 Samura Pizza Cals: (6006171) 7.30 Eagle Rides

P22a Cals. (8006171) 7:30 Eagle Ridas. (802678) 8:00 Tearage Mutant Herb Turtes (7083220) 8:30 Metant Herb Turtes (7083220) 8:30 Metant Herb Turtes (7083220) 8:30 Power Rimges Zeo (882249) 9:00 Ocasper (7026807) 10:30 Ace Vernura (708265) 11:00 Lile with Louis (252048) 9:130 The Told (2522775) 12:00 Incredible Hult. (7073677) 12:30pm Mortal (806605) 1:30 Eagle Fillers (886538) 2:00 Herb Turtes (4725249) 2:30 Metand Richer (8051820) 8:30 Power Ranges Zeo (8508715) 4:30 Power (475072) 4:30 Ann Vertura (4851869) 5:30 Spicierman (4108201) 5:30 Gosseburnes (2089576) 8:00 Spicierman (4108201) 5:30 Gosseburnes (2089576) (4109201) 5.30 Good 6,00 Sweet Valley High ect Valley High (8874084)

8.00em Anna of Green Gablet (79249) 7,00 Dennst the Menace (55713) 7,30 Dennst the Menace (55713) 7,30 Dennst the Menace (32220) 8.00 Bestman (9599) 8.30 Art Attack (98539) 9.00 Bestman (9599) 8.30 Art Attack (98539) 9.00 Bestman (13607) 10.30 Robinson Cause (18775) 11,00 Denger Mouse (80355) 11,30 Gravedule 14(h (51054) 12,00 Gear's Orthestra (92355) 12,30pm Hallway Across the Gallety (27539) 1,00 By the Way of the Stars (52084) 1,30 Black Besuly (19510) 2.00 Gat from Tornoston (6978) 2.30 Ocean Odyssby (4625) 3.00 Art Attack (8715) 3.30 Fisch Gordon (9171) 4.00 Betrain (5978) 4.30-5.00 The Big Diele man (5978) 4.30-5.00 The Big Dieh CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop carbons from 5.00em to 9.00pm, includes from and Jerry, Popeye and The Pintstones NICKELODEON

TROUBLE

12.00 Hearthreak High (2447626) 1.00pm Madison (6530510) 1.30 Sweet Valley High (2427862) 2.00 Hamphire (4000171) 2.30 Califorms Decams (6009510) 3.20 Sylver Gross (4996975) 3.30 Siest (8011255) 4.00 Sweet Valoy High (609062) 4.30 Hangtone (8096048) 5.00 Seved by the Bell (4891423) 5.30 Celifornia Dreams (6010626) 5.00 Bylar Grove (8017539) 8.30 Madison (8091591) 7.00-8.80 Hand-

8.00pm Robocop (\$259572) 9.00 The Burning Zone (\$259336) 10.00 Tour of Duty (\$262423) 11.00 FB.Nt Bad Teste

(8697268) 1.00mm The Burning Zone (4486260) 2.00 Tour of Duty (9321669) 3.00 FILM: The Loveless (2438973) 5.00 PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7,00pm Entertahment UK (2510) 7,30 Possenna (4607) 8,00 Rossenna (4607) 8,00 Rossenna (830) 8,00 Monty Python (7055) 9,00 Cheen (29107) 8,30 Teo (72055) 10,00 Gany Shanding (35045) 10,30 Frasica (44784) 11,00 Amsstrong and Miller (79602) 11,30 Monty Python (81201) 12,00 Nurses (97485) 12,30mm 9,00 (59008) 1,00 Cheers (90244) 1,30 Teol (48911) 2,00 Bristnatment UK (75008) 2,30 Amstrong and Miller (87945) 3,00 Frasica (10008) 3,00 Amstrong and Miller (87945) 3,00 Amstrong an 3,39-4.00 Gerry Shanding (78195) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm The Guyver (342442) 8.50 FILM: Star Truk VI (87295501) 10.45 The Making of Mare Attack (8919045) 11.00 The Invectors (8836539) 12.00 The incredible Hulk (9171553) 1.00em The Twilight Zona (1882669) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (3705379) 2.00 Night Gallery (1298485) 3.00-4.00 Fixey the 13th (4244200)

9.00em The Joy of Pairing 9.30 Grow with Joe (2437249) 10.00 Two's Country Cooling (4087510) 10.30 Our House (2513825) 11.00 Fix it (515933) 11.30 This Clid House (5154269) 12.00 Yan Can Cook (2804978) 12.30pm Grahem Kert (2431065) 1.00 Today's Goutmet (2043084) 1.30 Home Again (2430336) 2.00 Homesime (4980317) 2.30 Furniture to Go (8012084) 3.00 Two's Courty (4992152) 3.30-4.00 This Old House DISCOVERY

4.00cm Plax Hunt 4.30 The Nutterbor 5.00 4.00pm Rex Hunt 4.30 The Nullerbor 5.00 Treasure Hunters (4904997) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (9863572) 6.00 Wild Trings (9013713) 6.30 Wild Trings (9004059) 7.00 Invention (4984133) 7.30 Wonders of Weether (8000249) 8.00 Mysterous World (499391) 8.30 The Cuest (4996289) 8.00 Unexplained (3265510) 10.00 Mysterious (Juneses (3265510) 10.00 Mysterious (9800133) 12.00 Classic Wheels (232992) 400 Mysterious (9800133) 12.00 Classic Wheels (232992) 400 Mysterious (9800133) 12.00 Classic Wheels (232992) 400 Mysterious (40014581) 13.00 Mysterious 1.00em Top Marques (4002640) 1.30-2.00 The Extremeta (8640350) THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography: Hernes of the Bible (8788442) 5,00 Driving Passion (3414055)

6,00 De Gause (6946510) 7.00-6.00 Biography Leonard Nimoy (4139201) **CHALLENGE TV**

Win with Prize-Time twice an hour.

S.Degen Blockhusters (1669688) 5.80
Spelbound (441979) 6.30 Cetchphrase (31888) 7.05 Sale of the Century (48084) 7.40 Gaves Us a Ciue (280959) 8.20 Aff Clued Up (351997) 9.00 Through the Keyhole (692442) 8.35 Busman's Holday (57089) 10.00 Trassure Hum (491228) 11.20 Love at First Sight (301161) 12.00 Sale of the Century (89071) 12.90mm Hert to Hart (97756) 1.30 Lou Grant (89973) 2.30 Christy (69553) 3.30 Aff Together Now (23689) 4.00 The Raft Guy (39466) UK LIVING

8.00mm Trny Lutrg (2913978) 9.00 Gladrags and Glemour (3732978) 9.15 Gordon Elfott (8794084) 10.05 Jeny Springer (4831510) 11.06 The Young and the Residea (8246539) 11.46 Super Freezo (44612133) 11.50 Snookaide (3957797) 12.25pm Talke a Latter (70945882) 12.85 Tempetat (3530807) 1.46 Rotonde (95920) 2.30 The Hisst is On (2141404) 3.00 Live at Time (48540978) 4.05 Jeny Springer (5534171) 5.00 Super Freezo (37082084) 5.05 Lingo (84208659) 5.30 Ludy Ladders (214520) 6.00 I Dream of Jeannie (8211201) 6.38 Ready, Steedy, Cook (3809220) 7.05 Brookside (1839997) 8.05 7.40 Who's Sony Now? (8817997) 8.05 Rolonda (8124442) 9.00 FILM: InfideBty (3258591) 11.00-12.00 The Sex Files ZEE TV

7.00mm Jaagran 7.36 ZEE Moming 8.30 Mae 8.00 Eber Junte Mawja 9.30 Abhinem 10.00 Tera 11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 10.00 Tera 11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 Dence Meryla 12.00 Dence 12.30 per Droop Aur Chaon 1.00 FILMs Marine Pyar Klya 4.00 ZEE Zone Presents 4.10 Public Demand 5.18 Air Latin 6.00 Campus 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Karnal Kombinellon 7.30 Sonegi April Beat 8.00 News 8.35 Desteon 9.65 Patriar 10.00 Hit Tir Hz Hz 10.30 Purush Kshetra 11.00 Meno Ya Na Meno 11.30-12.00 Antelsahari MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Name, reviews and the latest music video charts VH-1

The video hits channel, Classic rock and

Quiet Swede serves to dampen young Australian's fire

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26 1997

Walking wounded continue to give England cause for concern



Le Tissier cuts a lonely figure at Bisham Abbey yesterday after joining the England squad that is preparing for the match against Mexico. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Collymore gets Mexican w

THEY wore tracksuits not dressing gowns, they played head tennis not dominoes. But when the shell-shocked survivors of an increasingly frenetic FA Carling Premiership sea-son gathered at Bisham Abbey vesterday to try to rescue the England match against Mexico on Saturday from descending into the realms of a looked for all the world like

Some strolled through the grounds, appearing now and then from behind hedgerows, chatting in the gentle spring sunshine. A few sat in the shelter of a small white marquee at the side of the training pitch, a couple talked on mobile phones.

Matthew Le Tissier, whose foot injury has become someconvalescents checking them- thing of a cause célèbre,

TIMESTWO

CROSSWORD

No 1051

ACROSS: 1 Truncated 6 Set 8 Endorse 9 Miami 10 Fire

11 Standard 13 Hit man 14 Bandit 17 Fantasia 18 Film 20 Flies

DOWN: 1 Twelfth 2 Understanding 3 Curt 4 Twenty 5 Demoniae 6 Slap and tickle 7 Third 12 Malaysia 15 Tempest

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1046

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ACROSS: 1 Absolve 5 Scrum 8 Troop 9 Debussy 10 Mum

DOWN: I Attempt 2 Storm 3 Lap 4 Endure 5 Sub judice 6 Rosetta 7 Maybe 1) Privilege 13 Manager 15 Dungeon

11 Pirouette 12 Tom-tit 14 Wizard 17 Dunsinane 18 Pin

19 Neglect 20 Globe 21 Surge 22 Ramadan

16 Factor 17 Dunes 18 Proud 20 Gum

All flights subject to availability.

DOWN

23 Alchemical; tightly sealed

Breach; sever (7) 2 Very nearly (4-4)

3 Violent gust; scream (6)

4 Land to Egypt's west (5)

7 Tournament winner (8)

11 Public money for defen-

13 Russian (alphabet) (8)

14 Kiev its capital (7)

15 Appalling smell (6)

17 Right to keep job (6)

19 A mollusc, the sea-ear (5)

dants (5,3)

5 Spreading from centre (6)

ACROSS

Ruskin-libelled painter (8)

Thick, muddy (fiquid) (6) London cathedral (2,5)

10 S American mammal (5)

12 Weird pattern in wheat

16 (Army) non-officers (5.5)

18 Large type of steak (1-4)

21 Thundercloud; saintly aura

21 Trickle 22 Hag 23 Agreement

16 Winter 17 Fifth 19 Five

22 Element I, its tincture an

20 Statistical annual (7)

antiseptic (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 1050

Savoury tart (6)

stooped to pick up a wayward tennis ball that had bounced over a high fence and threw it back on to the court. But he extended himself no farther. Robbie Fowler, fresh from his altruistic antics at Highbury on Monday night, eschewed entreaties to expand on his attempted largesse and watched training from the sidelines.

On the nitch, the healthiest ones, hardy men such as David Batty and Paul Ince, stood either side of a volleyball-style net, nodding the ball back and forth. Later, another group of five or six players. including Jamie Redknapp and Ian Wright, formed a small circle and indulged in some control practice, firing off one-touch passes like the spring-loaded sides of a pinball machine.

The squad members who actually kicked a ball, though, were in the minority. Five players - Gary Pallister. David Beckham, Nick Barmby, Dominic Matteo and Darren Anderton — did not make it to Buckinghamshire at all, retained by their clubs so they could minister to their injuries. A further eight -Teddy Sheringham, Tony Adams, Gareth Southgate, Le Tissier, Steve McManaman and Soi Campbell among them - were condemned by their knocks and strains to remain idle.

Reduced to 12 fit players, Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, drafted in new men to

OLIVER HOLT



Football Correspondent

paper over the cracks with each piece of bad news. Last week David May, the Manchester United central defender, got the call. Yesterday Stan Collymore, the Liverpool centre forward, was summoned, along with Phil Neville, whose brother, Gary, is doubtful for the match, and Stuart Pearce, the Nottingham Forest player-manager, was also brought in to bolster the numbers.

Hoddle did a good job of putting a brave face on things, pointing out that the injury glut would give players such as May and Collymore, who would otherwise have been denied a chance, an opportunity to stake a claim for a place in his World Cup plans.

But after he had dismissed suggestions that his problems had been worsened by a club versus country rift involving spats with leading Premiership managers such as Alex Ferguson, Roy Evans and Graeme Souness. he admitted that, had he been able to

"If I had had a crystal ball, then I would agree with you that in the circumstances it might have been better to have a training get-together rather than a friendly." Hoddle said. "But we had to finalise this five or six months ago and. after four qualifying games, it was the first opportunity in the calendar for a friendly.

foresee the flood of problems.

he would have abandoned

lans for the Mexico gam

"If I had been in charge for 12 or 15 matches by now, then the situation would be different, too. I quite respect that at this stage of the season there are people going for cups and if it had been this time next vear. I would not be looking at a friendly game because I know that the players are tired.

"But we are at an earlier stage in our development at the moment and there are still positives rather than negatives. It is not ideal because I would have liked to have worked with a certain system and that may have to wait to the summer now, but if people like Nicky Butt and Stan Collymore get control of a

keeping it and so this situation may guicken development in

"Whether they are ready or not is neither here nor there. They will learn how to play at this level and the fact that these things have happened means I can experiment. Even if we lose the march, there would still be a lot to gain." Hoodie, who said he still

planned to use the match against Mexico to glean information and experience of how to play against South American teams, insisted that the "lines of communication" between him and Ferguson, in particular, were working well and that disagreements about the release of players, even for checking of injuries, had been exaggerated.

He said he had spoken to the Manchester United manager on Monday night and agreed with Ferguson that it was best for Beckham, who has a hamstring problem, and Pallister to remain in the North West for treatment. He cited the presence of the Neville brothers at Bisham as

evidence of co-operation. Towards the end of his press conference, he even managed a broad grin. He said Pearce. who will be in the starting line-up against Mexico, had been delighted to receive his call-up. "This time," Hoddle said. "I didn't have to go to the manager first."

Fair play to Fowler, page 48

shirt, they have got a shout of Ballesteros loses Ryder Cup fight

THE selection process for the Ryder Cup this year will not be changed and, on legal advice, plans for a ballot of members of the PGA European Tour, seeking more picks for the captain, Severiano Ballesteros, have

been put aside. Ken Schofield, executive director of the tour, made the announcement yesterday in Jacksonville, Florida, where many of the leading European goliers are gathered for the Players' Championship, which starts tomorrow.

It is a moot point whether they were more dampened by torrential rain that caused the course and practice facilities to be closed or by Schofield's announcement. The ten leaders in the Ryder Cup table on August 31 will automatically earn their places in the team for the match in Valderrama from September 26-28, leaving Ballesteros with only two wild-card choices.

Nick Faldo, Colin Montgomerie, Ian Woosnam, Sam Torrance and Bernhard effect,

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN JACKSONVILLE Langer had all spoken out in favour of an increase in the number of selections made by the captainin order to cover the eventuality that Faldo, Langer or Woosnam, among others, might not earn enough points to win an automatic olace.

At a players' meeting during the Portuguese Open, Ballesteros received backing for his request for a ballot to see whether there was enough support for the system to be changed. However, the Ryder Cup Committee took legal advice as to whether this could be done at this stage of a selection process that began last September.

"The only lawful basis on which selection procedure could be validly aftered at this stage was if the unanimous consent of all playing members eligible for selection was obtained." Nigel Davis, QC, said. Counsel said that any one player could obtain an injunction to prevent such an alteration being put into

An hour before Schofield's announcement, Faldo had emphasised why he and so many of his colleagues felt that a change was necessary. "I think we got away with it last time at Oak Hill through Olazabal withdrawing and Woosnam getting in. But this time the old school are getting

older. And with me over here you have got Langer. Woosnam, Olazábal and Pamevik all of a sudden



Schofield: ruled out poll

perhaps needing a captain's selection. We need the insurance factor." Ballesteros was keeping his

own counsel in Santander last night but may issue a statement today. Faldo's reaction was typical of that of the senior players. "We should have made a

change after the last Ryder Cup." he said. "Seve made a big mistake. He should have said when he was appointed [captain] 'if you want me I want four picks'. He had the chance to get it right. The European Tour has exploded since winning the Ryder Cup. It has been the saviour of our tour. You cannot argue with

Neil Coles, the chairman of the European Tour board of directors, said last night: "We recognise that the debate will continue and the Ryder Cup Committee will continue to take note of all comments made by the membership, with a view to discussing the selection procedure for forthcoming matches."

Jockey Cl investiga doctor's la

By Richard Evans, racing corres

A SERIES of blunders that ended belatedly with Tony McCoy being banned from riding in the Martell Grand National next week could spark a radical shake-up in medical services at the 59 racecourses in Britain.

McCoy, the champion National Hunt jockey, was knocked unconscious for about three minutes after a nasty fall at Uttoxeter eight days ago, but a racecourse medical officer failed to enforce Jockey Club rules requiring the rider to receive a hospital check-up and an automatic 21-day riding sus-

Instead. Dr Andrew Toman stood down McCoy for ten days — a term not provided for in Jockey Club medical provisions on concussion - and the rider was allowed to go home.

If the ten-day medical suspension had remained in

force, McCoy would have been free to ride in the Grand National on Saturday week. However, when Dr Michael Turner, the Jockey Club medical adviser, discovered the mistake he extended the ban to 21 days.

The serious lapse, which has infuriated officials at the Jockey Club and prompted an urgent investigation, comes after recent criticism of medical shortcomings at Warwick, Yarmouth and Southwell, where Richard Davis was killed in a riding accident. Although the Jockey Club

has provided detailed instructions for medical cover, it has no control or jurisdiction over doctors who are appointed by. and are responsible to, individual racecourses. A total of 198 doctors are on racecourse panels but some may only be on duty for two or three

mectings a year. These are well-meaning eople trying to do a good job looking after jockeys' interests, but sometimes they don't quite apply the rules as they are written down by the Jockey Club," Turner said yesterday. This is something we are constantly looking at and see ing how we can resolve. I have no direct jurisdiction over the doctors. That is perfectly reasonable given the way everything was set up, but if you want to move on and professionalise what is at present a 'non-professional' service then things will have to change."

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The McCoy reports that been unconsc rider has suffer lover 60 secons be sent to hos mum period of



McCoy: mis

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